



EU-CHINA CIVIL SOCIETY DIALOGUE ON CLIMATE CHANGE & SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

13-15 JULY 2011

Interactive session on 13 July 2011. Dr Andreas Fulda introduces the principles and practices of participatory public policy, a key cross-cutting issue of the EU-China Civil Society Dialogue on Participatory Public Policy



Dialogue forum in Ningbo facilitates EU-China civil society collaboration



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UNITED KINGDOM · CHINA · MALAYSIA

A project implemented by the University of Nottingham and its consortium members

What made the 1st EU-China Civil Society Dialogue on Climate Change & Sustainable Consumption and Production successful:

117 participants from civil society, government/party, business, media and academia

Keynote speeches by Lord John Prescott, Former Deputy Prime Minister and Mr Hua Zhong, Deputy Director of Department of Climate Change, National Reform and Development Commission

17 Chevening Fellows from the China Youth League joined the EU-China Civil Society Dialogue for the entire duration of the dialogue forum

Seven guests from Europe (UK, Germany, Belgium) joined the discussions and deliberations

All European speakers were accompanied by personal interpreters during their entire stay in Ningbo

19 presentations by European and Chinese speakers in three days

Two three-hour interactive sessions on Day 1 and 2 and one full day of action planning on Day 3

Two follow-up participatory public policy initiatives have been designed during the dialogue forum and will be implemented from the beginning of September 2011 until end of February 2012

Six video reports about the dialogue have been produced by citizen journalists of the student organisation Nottingham University Television Station at the University of Nottingham Ningbo China (NUTS China)

CO2 emissions of dialogue participants will be offset by organisers by supporting a tree planting project in Zhejiang

First Project Consortium Meeting involving all six European and Chinese partners held prior to the dialogue forum

The 2nd EU-China Civil Society Dialogue on Industrial Pollution and Environmental Health will be held in Guangzhou from 23-25 August. For more information please visit www.eu-china.net

Closer EU-China cooperation can help address the challenge of climate change

By Wang Xiangyi and Wang Lu

From 13-15 July 2011, the EU-China dialogue on the topic of Climate Change and Sustainable Consumption and Production was successfully held at the University of Nottingham Ningbo China. This event also marked the official beginning and launch of the new EU-China Civil Society Dialogue, a three-year program funded by the European Union. A total of six partners from China and the EU will carry out a series of dialogues on various topics such as climate change, environmental protection, food safety, freedom of information, rule of law, labour relations and finance reform. The University of Nottingham Ningbo in cooperation with CANGO and the China Civil Climate Action Network (CCAN) organized and hosted this first event.

In total 117 participants representing more than 50 different organizations from civil society, government, research institutions, private sector and the media attended the China-EU dialogue event. European NGO participants came from Germany, Britain and Belgium. Former UK Deputy Prime Minister John Lord Prescott gave a key note speech and advocated for closer EU-China cooperation to address the challenge of climate change. The Chinese government was represented by Mr. Hua Zhong from the Climate Change Department of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), who gave an overview of the Chinese government's policy responses to address climate change. Several Chinese and European environmental NGO representatives gave presentations covering various topics of NGO

activities, their work with the media, civil participatory public policy work regarding climate change in China and Europe.

In several open interactive sessions the participants had opportunities for exchanges and discussion, not only help them reflect on the work in their own organizations, but also to have in depth discussions about climate change topics of common interest with European and Chinese colleagues, especially regarding conceptual issues and each others' respective perspectives. Many Chinese civil society participants reflected on the exchange with the European NGOs and found that both on conceptual level and the angle of approaches of European NGOs on climate change work there are big differences. After three days of exchange and mutual learning from each other both Chinese and European participants gained new inspiration and expanded their ideas for future cooperation.

The China-EU dialogue on climate change and sustainable consumption and production will support two small grant follow-up small projects for joint EU-China NGO implementation to facilitate some concrete action towards climate protection and promotion of sustainable consumption and production. We believe that this and future EU-China dialogues make an important contribution to improved cooperation between China-EU civil society organizations.

Wang Xiangyi is Project Manager at the China Association for NGO Cooperation. Wang Lu is Project Coordinator at the China Association for NGO Cooperation.

Former UK Deputy Prime Minister Lord Prescott gave a key note speech and advocated closer EU-China cooperation to address the challenge of climate change.

Picture courtesy of Charles Sun, 2011 UNNC Graduate





“This dialogue forum marks the beginning of a fruitful partnership between the university and CANGO.”

Nick Miles
Provost and CEO of UNNC

“What is special about this dialogue is that it brings together civil society representatives from Europe and China.”

Huang Haoming
Executive Director of China
Association for NGO Cooperation



Bringing academics and practitioners together

By Dr Andreas Fulda

By getting involved in public policymaking academics can enrich their research and teaching and contribute to a more informed public debate about key issues facing Europe and China today. Staff of the University of Nottingham, both from the UK or China campus, have already seized the opportunity by participating in the three day dialogue forum.

As Provost Nick Miles aptly described it in his welcome remarks, the Opening Symposium in Ningbo marks the beginning of a fruitful partnership between the university and CANGO. UNNC as a truly distinctive and unique global university and CANGO as China’s leading umbrella for Chinese non-governmental organisations (NGOs) have co-created a platform for EU-China Civil Society Dialogues.

Academics at UNNC and practitioners associated with CANGO can benefit from a deepened collaboration.

Many of UNNC’s diverse staff conduct cutting-edge research on contemporary China. For both their research and teaching they often require access to Chinese rural and urban communities as well as contacts to local government officials and civil society practitioners.

As a networking organisation, CANGO enjoys excellent contacts to the Chinese party-state just as much as grassroots

non-governmental organisations all across China. Over the past decade CANGO has conducted numerous social development projects which involved international funders, national and local government agencies, businesses, community-based groups and Chinese NGOs. Partnering with CANGO allows academics to enhance the utility of their research on China.

CANGO can benefit from the considerable expertise of the University of Nottingham Ningbo China. CANGO can tap into the wealth of resources provided by the School of Contemporary Chinese Studies’ research arm and think tank, the [China Policy Institute \(CPI\)](#) in Nottingham. CPI is also engaging in capacity building, e.g. the Chevening Young Leaders Training Programme for mid-career Chinese officials on behalf of the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the All-China Youth Federation (ACYF). The China Policy Institute is also a major contributor to the [Europe China Research and Advise Network \(ECRAN\)](#).

Dr Andreas Fulda manages the EU-China Civil Society Dialogue Program on behalf of the China Policy Institute, School of Contemporary Chinese Studies, University of Nottingham, UK.

European NGOs on their way to China

By Hermann Aubie

Climate change, global warming, Fukushima... Today more than ever, the energy transition toward a renewable and low-carbon society must be intensified.

By bringing together European and Chinese NGOs, this first EU-China civil society dialogue offered exactly the right platform to discuss how to make this transition happen by learning from each other's experiences and perspectives. This dialogue also provided a chance to address complex challenges through more cooperation and better involvement of civil societies across political borders.

While these challenges were often understood differently by each NGO, there was a clear awareness among both participants that this dialogue should also help to reflect more critically on what could be the main overlapping conditions for global sustainability in order to strike a better deal during Rio 2012.

Interestingly, the agenda of European NGOs appeared more focused on global issues than Chinese NGOs, whose agenda is often more concerned by local problems such as industrial pollution, health conditions or waste treatment, which affect the daily life of many people in China.

Among all the practitioners who participated, Christoph Bals from Germanwatch found this pluralistic dialogue encouraging while hoping that Chinese civil society will have enough

influence at the local and international level to take a more active role in environmental negotiations. Others like Sam Geall, from Chinadialogue.net (中外对话), insisted on the importance of improving and enlarging public access to environmental information. Shin Wei Ng, from E3G, talked about how significant low-carbon technologies and cooperation between regions could be once fully implemented. Leida Rijnhout, from ANPED, eventually raised the problems and limits of economic growth fetishism as well as the false necessity of further technological advancement, by inviting us to imagine ways to enhance our quality of life by consuming fewer goods with better, more human services.

For more information on the European NGOs mentioned above:

<http://www.anped.org/>

<http://www.e3g.org/>

<http://www.germanwatch.org/start/english.htm>

<http://www.chinadialogue.net/>

Mr Hermann Aubie is PhD student at the University of Rennes. His and Chen Wei-tung's video report about the participating European civil society representatives is available online: <http://www.tudou.com/playlist/id12833783.html>



All European speakers were accompanied by personal interpreters during their entire stay in Ningbo





Citizen journalists at the dialogue forum

By Xu Sujing



CHRISTOPH BALS
GERMANWATCH

SHIN WEI NG
E3G

SAM GEALL
CHINADIALOGUE

LEIDA RIJNHOUT
ANPED

Two significant features of the EU-China Civil Society Dialogue Program are the involvement of citizen journalists (also referred to as mobile journalists) and its collaboration with the self-organised student society NUTS China (short form for Nottingham University Television Station at the University of Nottingham Ningbo China). NUTS China has agreed to report from each of the eight EU-China Civil Society Dialogues.

According to Professor Stephen Quinn “the mobile journalist (mojo) (...) can provide quick content for the website, as a text message or verbal report, or a few sentences from the scene of an event, or supply still images or video taken with their mobile phone” (Stephen Quinn 2009, Mojo – Mobile Journalism in the Asian Region, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, Singapore). A training workshop was held from 11-13 June 2011 at UNNC during which a first group of citizen journalists was trained to use iPhone devices to produce video reports.

Six teams of citizen journalists participated in the first EU-China Civil Society Dialogue on Climate Change & Sustainable Consumption and Production. Each team produced their video report on their own - from the initial idea all throughout filming and post-production. Through their observations, investigations, communications and their interviews with forum attendants, which included speakers from both Europe and China as well as European and Chinese participants and forum organisers, these citizen journalists produced the following six video reports:

1. *Critical Reflection on the EU-China Civil Society Dialogue*: the report focuses on communication gaps and conceptual differences between European and Chinese participants, and also discusses the advantages of bringing different stakeholders together into this forum.

2. *European NGOs on Their Way to China*: This report portray's four European speakers in greater detail and explains why they and their organisations are interested in engaging China.

3. *Growing Pains of Chinese NGOs*: This video report describes key challenges Chinese NGOs face by interviewing dialogue participants who represents different Chinese civil society organisations.

4. *How Business Companies and NGOs See "Poisonous Apple"*: This report focuses on the relation between sustainable production and consumers' consumption choices through the case study of "Poisonous Apple", a reference to the Apple company.

5. *EU-China Civil Society Cooperation through the Lens of Christoph Bals*: This report is based on a series of interview with German environmental campaigner Christoph Bals and discusses the importance of collaboration between European and Chinese NGOs, through Christoph Bals' experience of collaborating with Chinese NGOs and his experience of being in the forum



Mojo training with Ivo Burum at UNNC, June 2011

6. *Practice What You Preach*: The journalists in this video interview conference organisers and participants and discuss whether the dialogue forum organisers had themselves practiced what they preach: by organising a dialogue forum based on the principles of sustainable consumption.



All six videos are available online:

<http://www.tudou.com/playlist/id12923464.html>

<http://vimeo.com/andreasfulda/videos>

These six video reports produced by UNNC citizen journalists present both personal but also very complex views of the dialogue forum. During the filming process they have already prompted communication among participants who share common interests in climate change and sustainable consumption and production. What's more, some of the reports have probed some interesting and challenging questions which allow different stakeholders to ponder these issues from more than one perspective. Last but not least, these videos are fairly informative and can be considered as a unique and innovative way to document the activities of the dialogue forum. Also, through these videos, the activities of the forum can be known by a wider audience, especially those people who could not attend the forum. As for these citizen journalists themselves, and especially our UNNC students, they have also gained many benefits. They could combine their academic interests with practical learning. Also, citizen reporting will lead to deeper and more critical thinking among our participating students.

Based on the Ningbo experience it seems safe to say that any organisation can greatly benefit from involving citizen journalists in their dialogue forums or projects. The Ningbo experience with citizen journalists can also inspire Chinese and European NGOs to partner with citizen journalists who can help tell their stories.

Ms Xu Sujing is staff member of the International Communications division at UNNC.

Putting ideas into practice

By Patrick Schroeder

After the first two days of listening intensively to presentations about climate change and sustainable consumption and production from politicians, academic experts and NGO representatives from China and Europe, the participants were looking eagerly forward to the third day to start action planning for the follow-up projects. Each of the EU-China dialogues provides for two small grant follow-up projects in the order of 10,000 Euro which need to be implemented within six months after the dialogue jointly by Chinese and European NGOs. During this final day of the dialogue on climate change and sustainable consumption and production, the Chinese and European participants worked hard together to design innovative and concrete cooperation projects with the goal to make real progress and to move from “high-carbon dialogue to low-carbon action”.

The criteria for selecting these two follow-up projects included amongst others potential for cooperation between European and Chinese NGOs, participation of NGOs in public policymaking processes, feasibility of implementation, degree of innovation and chances for scaling up the small grant projects into larger initiatives.

Open process yields great ideas

Following good NGO practices, the process of identifying and developing ideas for these follow-up projects was conducted in an open and participatory way. In a first round of brainstorming every participant was invited to bring in their ideas and share them with the whole group. Following this interactive warming up session, the participatory method of “Open Space” was used to facilitate small group discussions to sketch out these ideas further. After holding the small group discussions, which generated more than a dozen of already quite concrete project ideas, a number of six project proposals was selected by the group to be developed into more detailed project implementation plans. In this final session of small group discussions, fighting the onslaught of “conference fatigue” after almost three days of intense dialogue, the participants focused passionately on their final task and managed to work out detailed project implementation plans including time lines, concrete activities, expected results and ways to measure impacts.

The six project plans that at the end of the day emerged from this process clearly reflected the participants’ efforts, expertise and creativity that were put into the whole procedure. The project plans encompassed various fields of possible action including inputs by NGOs into climate change policy making, NGO climate campaigning, low-carbon city development or linking climate change and rural development. The variety of project plans generated clearly displayed the multitude of issues that still need to be addressed, not only by civil society, to avoid the negative impacts of unsustainable consumption and production patterns of which climate change is the most pressing one.

One project proposal envisaged Europe-China NGO cooperation on poverty alleviation and protection of ecosystem services to increase resilience of rural communities facing climate change impacts. Especially the protection of wetlands and water resources was considered as a priority under this proposal.

One project plan outlined the participation of Chinese NGOs in China’s climate change legislation process, a very direct way of public participation in policymaking. China’s central government recently announced the drafting of a Climate Change Law for which the Climate Change Department of China’s National Development and Reform Commission has invited stakeholder comments in an open process that closes in September 2011 – an opportunity Chinese environmental NGOs will not let pass by.

Another proposal was titled “C+ Initiative – Beyond Climate, Beyond Commitment and Beyond China”. Under this project NGOs would mobilise stakeholders and organisations such as universities, companies or communities to take climate action and initiatives supporting the achievement of government targets – or even go beyond that aiming for more than official energy efficiency requirements and emissions reduction goals demand. As part of this project Chinese NGOs would also develop specific systems of MRV (“measurable, reportable and verifiable”), where NGOs would act as independent third party verification bodies.

A further project plan, also closely related to both the MRV issue and climate change legislation, proposed to focus on the issue of environmental information disclosure to the public. Under this project NGOs would engage with local governments and media to improve systems for information disclosure of environmental information such as emissions and pollution data.

Although we are, at the time of writing, still awaiting final approval by the Program Advisory Council and the EU Delegation, after much deliberation by CANGO and UNNC two projects have been chosen for implementation. Choosing these projects over the others was not an easy decision as they were all extremely relevant and very good. The criteria for selecting these two follow-up projects included amongst others potential for cooperation between European and Chinese NGOs, participation of NGOs in public policymaking processes, feasibility of implementation, degree of innovation and chances for scaling up the small grant projects into larger initiatives.

Thinking globally – acting locally

The two selected projects are titled “Rio+20 – Evaluation of Agenda21 Implementation Project” and the “China-Europe NGO cooperation for low-carbon city development”, thereby finding a good balance between engagement on local action and participation in global processes.

Under the “Rio+20 – Evaluation of Agenda21 Implementation Project” a number of Chinese NGOs will form a working group and systematically evaluate environmental, social and economic aspects of China’s Agenda21 implementation over the last 20 years. In doing so they will particularly focus on China’s efforts for climate change mitigation and atmospheric protection. The plan also includes presenting the outcomes of this evaluation during the 2012 Rio+20 Summit held in Brazil in June 2012 – 20 years after the Agenda21 was adopted by more than 178 Governments at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992. In this project Chinese NGOs will also provide inputs into the global stakeholder consultation process for Rio+20 on the summit topics of “Green Economy” and “Global Environmental Governance”. Especially the second issue is relevant for enhanced participation of civil society, not only in China, but in all countries. For this project component Chinese NGOs will be working closely with ANPED, the Northern

Alliance for Sustainability, which is facilitating NGO participation in the Rio+20 Summit. Through this project Chinese NGOs not only provide policy recommendations for the next decade for Chinese transition to a “Green Economy”, but also to global macro-level frameworks for future development pathways.

The “China-Europe NGO Cooperation Project for Low-carbon City Development” project will see close collaboration – potentially long-term cooperation – between one or two European NGOs with Chinese NGOs on the design and implementation of low-carbon cities. The project will enable NGO cooperation based on existing city-level cooperation, particularly building on sister city partnerships between Europe and China. The six-month project will enable stakeholder consultations to be carried out in one Chinese and one European city. A likely candidate is the existing Bonn-Chengdu sister city partnership which already includes some elements and exchanges of city officials for low-carbon development. NGOs will contribute to this process and further promote city-level cooperation and exchanges to support low-carbon development of their respective cities. The result will be a scoping study summarising the current state of low-carbon development and identifying potentials in priority sectors such as for low-carbon community development, energy efficiency in buildings, renewable energy applications, waste management and low-carbon transportation systems. The results of the scoping studies will be used for further joint-acquisition activities to implement low-carbon city projects.

With both projects it will be, of course, difficult to see direct impacts on policy making immediately after the six months. We nevertheless believe that they will without doubt create a positive impact towards enhanced policy frameworks and concrete EU-China civil society cooperation on climate change and sustainable consumption and production.

Patrick Schroeder is International Advisor at CANGO where he supports coordination and international cooperation of the China Civil Climate Action Network (CCAN).



Participants from civil society, government/party, business, media and academia joined the dialogue forum in Ningbo



Promoting people to people diplomacy

By Dr Andreas Fulda

The University of Nottingham has been awarded a €1 million grant by the European Commission and received £67794 from the British Foreign & Commonwealth Office to establish a EU-China Civil Society Dialogue on Participatory Public Policy. Professor Yao Shujie, Head of the School of Contemporary Chinese Studies at the University of Nottingham, said: "I am pleased that this is one of several large research and network building grants SCCS has won from the EU over the last two years. I am excited that the School and its China Policy Institute has emerged to become a leading China Studies centre in the UK and Europe. This and other major EU grants will help the School onto a much higher level in terms of research and impact."

Between 2011 and 2013 the School of Contemporary Chinese Studies, through its China Policy Institute (CPI) think tank, will foster durable and sustainable links between European and Chinese civil society stakeholders in eight policy areas. The policy areas include 1) Climate Change & Sustainable Production and Consumption, 2) Industrial Pollution and Environmental Health, 3) Labour Relations, 4) Child Welfare, 5) Social Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship, 6) Participatory Public Policy and Freedom of Information, 7) Government Finance Reform, 8) Civil Society and the Rule of Law. Intercultural dialogues are more likely to promote policy change when participants in our eight EU-China Civil Society Dialogues can engage in conference-based learning and apply their new knowledge in follow-up activities. This dialogue program allows European and Chinese participants to identify areas of common interests, followed by the design of joint-follow up activities which improve public participation at one or more phases of the experimentation-based Chinese policy cycle.

According to the European Commission (EC) "Europe has a major economic and political interest in supporting China's sustainable development and successful transition to a stable, prosperous and open country." In China's EU Policy Paper the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China states its objective "to expand China-EU cultural and people exchanges under the principle of mutual emulation, common prosperity and complementarity, and promote cultural harmony and progress between the East and West." Civil society researcher Dr Nora Sausmikat at the German Asienstiftung asserts that the needs of both

Europe and the PR China can be met through cross-cultural collaboration of civil society stakeholders. "NGOs should not only work on but with China." Such calls for an extended European China engagement are also being echoed on the Chinese side. Wu Baiyi, Professor at the Institute of European Studies (IES) argues that "China and EU should add more substance to their political ties. While overcoming institutional and ethical differences, both need to deepen their mutual confidence by building a multi-tier political dialogue to bridge the gaps not only between top leaders, but also among grassroots level officials, non-governmental activists and the general public." By supporting the EU-China Civil Society Dialogue on Participatory Public Policy the European Commission is deepening its China engagement as an active promoter of Chinese civil society. The University of Nottingham is coordinating a six member program consortium which includes both European and Chinese research institutes, universities, and non-profit organisations:

University of Nottingham (UoN)

<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/>

The EU-China Civil Society Dialogue on Participatory Public Policy is co-ordinated by Program Manager Dr Andreas Fulda, Fellow at the China Policy Institute (CPI), the School of Contemporary Chinese Studies' (SCCS) research arm at the University of Nottingham, UK. The China Policy Institute (CPI) is a think tank set up by the University of Nottingham to expand the knowledge and understanding of contemporary China in the UK, Europe and worldwide and to analyse its global impact and the critical challenges it faces in its rapid development.

University of Nottingham Ningbo, China (UNNC)

<http://www.nottingham.edu.cn/en/index.aspx>

The University of Nottingham Ningbo, China (UNNC) is the first Sino-Foreign University in China with approval from the Chinese Ministry of Education. It is run by The University of Nottingham UK with cooperation from Zhejiang Wanli Education Group-University. The University of Nottingham Ningbo's mission statement is "Academic Excellence in the Service of Global Citizenship". This allows Chinese students to enjoy a world-class international education without the major expense of studying abroad.

China Association for NGO Cooperation (CANGO)

www.cango.org

The China Association for NGO Cooperation (CANGO) is a non-profit membership organization operating nationwide. CANGO was founded in 1992 and registered with the Ministry of Civil Affairs in 1993 (registration number 3340), and is audited according to Chinese laws. By the end of 2010, CANGO had 142 member organizations. The future task and direction for CANGO will be to promote China's civil society development and to provide a platform for exchange of experiences and information-sharing for Chinese NGOs.

Institute for Civil Society, Sun Yat-sen University (ICS)

<http://ics.sysu.edu.cn/>

The Institute for Civil Society at the Sun Yat-sen University (ICS) is a non-profit organization engaged in research, experiment and advocacy. ICS was jointly created by The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and the Sun Yat-Sen University (SYSU) in August 2003 and operates under SYSU's Department of Anthropology. With years of experience of labour relation research and advocacy, ICS enjoys reliable and strong links with the Guangdong government, media, entrepreneurs, academia and NGOs.

German Asia Foundation (GAF)

<http://www.asienhaus.de/>

The German Asia Foundation (GAF) was founded in 1992 to promote a dialogue with Asian countries and Asians people living in Germany and to support the initiatives and organisations participating in it. It is politically and economically independent and works in Germany as well as in Asia for human dignity and against oppression, for overcoming prejudices and the realization of social justice. It believes this is in the public interest - both here and in Asia.

Global Links Initiative (GLI)

<http://www.glinet.org/>

The Global Links Initiative (GLI) Global Links Initiative is a non-profit organisation with Charitable status since 2005 which aims to support positive and creative action on social inclusion and citizen empowerment worldwide. Using information technology as an enabler, Global Links Initiative aims to foster practical links among socially entrepreneurial people around the world as well as promoting partnership with government and business. GLI facilitates learning and the exchange and sharing of practical knowledge and experience focusing on what really works in community regeneration between individuals worldwide.

Great Britain-China Centre (GBCC)

<http://www.gbcc.org.uk/>

The Great Britain-China Centre (GBCC) is a not-for-profit organisation that promotes mutual understanding between the UK and China and aims to build long-term connections between decision-makers in the two countries. The Great Britain-China Centre believes that the UK and China will prosper politically, socially and economically through better cooperation and understanding. GBCC are expert in the design and delivery of projects aimed at sharing UK and EU legal, social and good governance best practice models with China.

Leadership Inc

<http://www.leadershipinc.com.cn/>

Facilitating Organizational Change in Greater China. LEADERSHIP INC (LI) provides innovative organizational and leadership development programs for both multinational and local corporations. LI focuses on helping senior management groups to make organizational and leadership changes to deal effectively with their situation. LI are the designated facilitators for all EU-China Civil Society Dialogues taking place in mainland China.

All partners of the consortium have specific expertise in substantive policy fields and include target groups such as community-based organisations, consumers, disabled, educational organisations, local authorities, migrants, non-governmental organisations, women, and young people in their work. They reach out to final beneficiaries such as reform-minded cadres, civil society practitioners, public intellectuals, educators, journalists, lawyers, community residents, and rural migrants. Expert facilitators from Leadership Inc, a facilitation consultancy based in China focused on applying participatory change processes will bring European and Chinese civil society stakeholders together to design and work out realistic and innovative initiatives for civil society participation in public policy, tested and implemented in a local area after each of the eight EU-China Civil Society dialogues.

The EU represents cultures, thoughts and agendas of vastly different countries but this diversity will be an advantage when it comes to promoting civil society values and ethics in China. If China is to become a more open and plural society, it will benefit from tapping into ideas from European civil society which can offer a set of innovative solutions to common problems.

Dr Andreas Fulda manages the EU-China Civil Society Dialogue Program on behalf of the China Policy Institute, School of Contemporary Chinese Studies, University of Nottingham, UK.

The first EU-China Civil Society Dialogue Program Consortium Board Meeting was held prior to the EU-China Civil Society Dialogue in Ningbo, China on 12 July 2011.

From left to right: Maria Luo, Karen Lim, Wang Xiangyi, Patrick Schroeder, Wang Lu, Li Yan, Klaus Fritsche, Steve Tsang, Andreas Fulda, Christine Ding, Mark Pixley, Katie Lee.



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