

Back on the participation of Worgamic forum China - Europe

By Antoine Hubert on Wednesday, September 1, 2010, 21:37 - [News](#) - [Permalink](#)

Worgamic participated beginning in July 2010 at the 3rd Biennial Forum of the China - Europe. Before presenting the results of these passionate encounters, this note explains the background and objectives of the forum of a new genre was born a few years ago, and growing.

The Forum was born from the ambition to deepen understanding between China and Europe, and desires of the spouses Charles Leopold Mayer Foundation (FPH), the Association of Chinese intellectuals living in Europe, and the Foundation Henry Fok Hong Kong, the two companies are learning to interact and enrich each other.

They held together in 2005 in Nansha in south China's first meeting where the experience of building the European Union was presented and discussed with a Chinese audience of journalists, researchers, diplomats and businessmen.

In October 2007, the Forum has evolved into a comprehensive dialogue between European and Chinese companies, structured in 46 workshops held across Europe in over 23 cities and 9 different countries gathered in Brussels and attended by representatives the largest European and Chinese institutions.

It was during the third biennial meetings *Converse to Converge* "exchanges to converge, which were held in July 2010 throughout China and the 12 to 14 July in Hong Kong for the plenary sessions, this dialogue asserts itself in its full dimension. Over 600 participants (about 400 Chinese and 200 Europeans), for not less than 63 workshops were held during the 3rd Biennial!

According to Pierre Calamme, organizer and mastermind of such meetings, the 2010 China Forum - Europe can be built around 6 key words:

- **need** : the global context pushes us understand
- **invention** : there is no precedent for this kind of forums, not even with other continents: Europe has never undertaken such exchanges with Africa, Latin America or Oceania. Hence the progress of trial and error as
- **Diversity** : a dialogue between two very different companies, from all corners of China and Europe, from all socio-professional categories of all opinions
- **unit** : more than 60 workshops organized around 9 major themes, but a plenary session to gather and learn the great lessons of diversity
- **Continuity** : The forum follows those of 2005 and 2007, it is a process "work in progress"

- **participation** : dialogue is built on a democratic basis, since the foundation of society (bottom up approach)

Thus, discussions were structured around [nine themes](#) :

1. City, territory and Sustainable Development
2. Social development and transformation of lifestyles
3. New business models and corporate social responsibility
4. China and Europe: local and global governance
5. Relationship between Humanity and the Biosphere
6. Science, technology and social responsibilities
7. Rethinking Education
8. Law and Justice
9. Culture and Arts

Each theme consisted of about 6 to 8 workshops. Each workshop was co-organized by a European and a Chinese structure. Worgamic was invited to attend the workshop on the role S47c Grassroots NGOs in social and environmental projects in local communities.

Received by the University of [Sun Yat Sen](#) in Guangzhou, co-organizer with [Asienhaus](#) this workshop, and represented by Guo Weiqing and Nora Sausmikat, Worgamic found himself alongside associations property management co [Selbstbau](#) Berlin and [ADSL](#) Latvia to represent Europe in this workshop.



We have structured our discourse once more around the cycles of Life and continuity in urban areas, and illustrated these concepts by examples of shared gardens, and AMAP (shadowed) composters group.



Chinese colleagues have shown in return for projects related to habitat management in times of natural disaster (such as the terrible floods in Sichuan), or in remote areas, a strong cultural identity and / or rich natural, such as Tibet. The [Center for Community Development Center of Guangdong](#) presented exemplary initiatives of co-owners akin to trustees French property management.

Finally, the association [Green Point](#) has introduced its educational projects it carries with communities, businesses and associations. Association pioneer in the field of education for sustainable development in China, Green Point is based primarily on the involvement of students in educational projects.

After three days of workshops, the 63 workshops were found in Hong Kong for the plenary session, aiming to present the work of each and combine them into coherent conclusions.



For that, groups gathered around 9 themes for more than a day to draw common conclusions.



What was the most complex challenge! However, participatory methodology developed by the China-Europe Forum, despite many misunderstandings by participants in group sessions, helped synthesize themes for each of the 9 key concepts, experiences most relevant to the work opportunities China -Europe for the future, and work areas for each of the four structural challenges of the forum between China and Europe: the challenge of the model, the challenge of values, the challenge of governance and the challenge of the role of China and the Europe in the world.

[All results](#) are available on the website of the China-Europe Forum.

Officials have subsequently succeeded to the podium to extol the merits of such meetings and provide support for their survival, since Michel Rocard and Pierre Calamme Mr. Ye Xiaowen, Party Secretary, via Herman Van Rompuy, chairman of the EU (delayed), Mr. Pat Cox, former president of the European Parliament, Mr John Tsang Chun-wah, Minister of Finance of Hong Kong ...



As noted by Mr. Ye Xiaowen, the forum is an opportunity to relaunch a new Silk Road. Or how to build unity from diversity. A refrain that recalled those of Yin and Yang Chinese (harmony in unity, unity in diversity, harmony in diversity), or how to achieve a "harmonious society" (like the Chinese concept of Sustainable Development, but more humanistic); or of Wei Wu Wei Tao, act without acting, or how to act without having negative impacts on our environment at large.

It is becoming more urgent as Mr. Rocard to think just the economy (and not just think about the economy!), And choose between Milton Friedman and Keynes, whether in China or Europe, for a sustainable development for all.

In conclusion, this forum has been incredibly rich, it is essential to capitalize in pursuing this type of meeting and developing new collaborations between our two worlds will benefit all. Not to mention the support of our political and financial partners and other hand to enable the sustainability of these meetings! In practice, we hope to eventually work with teams in Education for Sustainable Development, such as Green Point or structures interested in developing gardening projects and community composting in urban areas, as might be possible on the campus of University of Sun Yat-sen.

We thank Nora Sausmikat Asienhaus and for allowing us to participate in these meetings and all persons of the workshop S47c, the organizers of the University of Sun Yat Sen, Go and Weiqing Zhu Jiangang (and their many volunteers, including translators!) and guests Yonglong Liu, Xing Mo, Tian Feng, Gao Luli, Zhang Lifan; Antje Kiessig, Jeannette Albrecht and Girts Beikmanis European side, and teams of China-Europe Forum. We hope to see you all next biennial that should take place in 2013 in Europe!