

The EU-China Urbanisation Partnership Guangzhou Forum

(Guangzhou, 17 – 19 November, 2013)
(Summary Report)



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*The EU-China Urbanisation Partnership-Guangzhou Forum (2013) was held on November 16-19 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel Guangzhou. The forum was initiated and organized by the **China-Europa Forum (CEF)**, **China International Urbanisation Development Strategy Research Committee (CIUDSRC)** and **JunZeJun Law Offices**, and with the support of the **DG Energy of the European Commission**. It was the first-ever CSO-led dialogue on Urbanisation since the establishment of the EU-China Urbanisation Partnership in 2012, bringing together more than 200 high-level officials, entrepreneurs, civil society representatives and players, practitioners and citizens involved in the process of urbanization from China and Europe.*

On November 16 a field trip was organized to the Dalang Community in Shenzhen where Chinese and European delegates witnessed the "Third Eight Hours of Young Migrant Workers" there, a true portrayal of new urbanization and social construction in Shenzhen. Participants learned not only of achievements and challenges in the process, but also of local attempts at and exploration of innovation in social management.

Over the following two days, participants had comprehensive, multi-dimensional dialogues and exchanges around the theme of "EU-China Dialogue and Construction of Sustainable Cities", covering topics including Designing, Financing and Innovating Cities , Sustainable Cities and Societies, Ecological Environment and Sustainable Cities, Evolution of the Governance Model, Training and Communication, and Regional Development and Cooperation.

On the morning of November 19 the prime movers of the workshops presented their conclusions to the Plenary Session and these were followed by a presentation of a synthesis of all the reports.

Part 1: Extracts of Speeches of the Opening Ceremony

Gerhard STAHL, *Secretary General, the Committee of the Regions, EU*

The following development of China and the European Union will be decisive for the future of our planet. It is obvious that the existing economic model, which is a space for social consumption creating pollution, is threatening our planet. We face these challenges: how to develop the economic model throughout Europe, and how to further Chinese economic development. The European Union decided in its energy strategy to change its climate direction and to develop smart, green cities as goals. China has embarked on its 12th Five-Year Plan in the same directions. China has decided to reduce energy consumption, increase bio-energy and make a further effort to reduce CO2 emissions and poverty. So we can see that the Chinese and European partners are going in the same direction.

That we can solve this ambitious policy only with the involvement of cities and regions is obvious. At least with the European Union I can tell you that all partnerships are undertaken by cities and regions. So we have to get involved in order to make progress with the ambitions of all regions and all leaders for the development of a better and sustainable world.

LI Bingren, *Executive Deputy Director of the Science and Technology Committee, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development*

China has paid a heavy price in its process of rapid development of economy, with excessive consumption of the natural resources and energies, causing serious pollution and damage to the environment. I hope that

Chinese and European participants could take this opportunity to discuss how to respond to these challenges in urbanisation and to seek paths towards a sustainable future.

YAN Jun, *Senior Partner of JunZeJun Law Offices*

As an extremely complex systematic mechanism, urbanisation involves various stakeholders in various fields. Starting from basic planning and design, investment, construction, up to the implementation of projects, the process of urbanisation – which can also be described as a procedure starting from the introduction of industry, the emergence of a community, up to public management and governance – implies the cooperation of numerous actors. This cooperation is subjected to a certain framework of legal norms and policies, and has to be specified in terms of deed.

Therefore, the participation of lawyers is required. Being both responsible for designing the system, the pattern and the framework of urbanization plans, and for ensuring the cooperation of all the actors involved, JunzeJun Law Offices are also deeply involved in the whole process of each urbanisation project.

CHEN Yan, *Executive President of China-Europa Forum*

From a global perspective, the 20th century is regarded as an urbanisation-dominated century. China's rapid urbanisation is currently joining the global tide. Looking at Europe, however, today's world is at the point of a new transition. The pursuit of sustainable development, energy and ecological transition and the change of

the development paradigm have not only become increasingly pressing issues but should also be brought into the basic concepts of human progress and development. The key to a sustainable future for coming generations lies in the sustainability of urbanisation development. The EU and China, however, have not reached a consensus on these fundamental issues and dialogues and cooperation between the two sides on urbanisation are therefore of great significance.

Gerard MAGNIN, Executive Director of Energy Cities

1. Beyond their differences, in their respective continents or between continents, cities and actors of urbanisation need to share a common topics and vision. As a network of local authorities specialized in energy issues, we have suggested the following motto: **The Low Energy City with High Quality of Life for All.**
2. Horizontal exchanges are absolutely necessary to improve our capacities to act. There is an enormous potential of experience, knowledge, successes and mistakes at local level in all cities and local authorities. This knowledge, based on practical experience, does not exist in any other place of decision making.
3. We need to change most our mind-sets and our habits to build a local sustainable future. Energy Cities has set up 30 proposals for the energy transition of cities and towns.

These proposals are structured around five strategic axes: empowering local actors, knowing our territories' resources and flows, rethinking finance in general, in a more local way; inventing new local governance to effectively involved society as a whole; and urban planning as a way of reducing energy use.

XUE Desheng, Professor, Sun Yat-Sen University

Rapid economic growth and urbanisation has made the Pearl River Delta (PRD) one of the most dynamic areas of the world. Through development of urbanisation, however, the PRD has been facing a great number of challenges, such as ecological and environmental issues, management of the floating population and rural migrant workers, economic restructuring, public facilities supply and social security. Regional planning is an important measure in tackling these problems.

Urbanisation in the PRD region is quite different from that of Western Counties. We have been able, however, to learn a lot from European experiences, including a more punctual and convenient public transport system, a higher density of subway and train systems, the role of civilian society in the process of urbanisation, policies of international and domestic migration, policies of environmental protection and treatment, education of the public, and urban and regional governance.

JIN Dejun, Director of the CIUDSRC

China's urbanisation has the following three prominent features. First, there is an extraordinarily large migrant population in the process of urbanisation, which makes peri-urbanisation a distinct phenomenon. China should take this seriously through a thorough reform of the household registration system and a focus on education for new citizens who have lived in rural areas before residing in the cities. Second, China must attach great importance to agricultural modernization as a result of the stepped-up urbanisation. Third, urban and rural infrastructure should be strengthened not only in terms of planning and construction but in quality.

Pierre CALAME, President of the CEF Foundation, President of the Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation for Human Progress (FPH):

The role of cities in the transition towards sustainable societies: a major challenge for the Euro-Chinese dialog

There are two stages in the EU-China cooperation process on urbanisation. The objective of the first stage was to help the Chinese society to benefit from the diverse European experiences as the urbanisation in Europe took place long before the Chinese one.

A new stage is now starting. Its objective is to learn from each other on the way for territories and cities to manage the systemic transition from unsustainable development to sustainable societies. Taking stock of the reflections of several European and international networks of local authorities, Pierre Calame summarized ten major issues for the transition:

- 1) a new vision of the world, the city and the territory;
- 2) the understanding of cities as eco-systems, the knowledge of their metabolism and the management of the flows;
- 3) the coproduction of the public good and the mobilization of all the actors;
- 4) the relationship between sustainable territories and sustainable supply chains;
- 5) the energy transition strategies and the management of mobility;
- 6) a new conception of governance, with the focus on the management of relations between levels of governance, between sectors, between actors and the need of a comprehensive training program;
- 7) a new approach of strategic planning and of the conception of new developments;
- 8) an humanist approach of technology and the smart city;
- 9) co-responsibility of actors and co-production of knowledge;
- 10) appropriate financing tools.

Part 2: Speeches & Dialogue

Workshop 1: Designing, Financing and Innovating Cities

(Due to recording problems during the meeting some parts of speeches and discussions do not appear below. We apologise to our participants.)

Section I: Urban Construction, Operation and Financing

Pascaline Gaborit, Director, the European New Towns Platform (ENTP)

Towards an innovative urban planning approach in response to environmental and social issues

The scales of Chinese and European cities are different as are their densities. There is, however, important scope for cooperation between Chinese and European local authorities. Cities face common challenges which may lead to joint strategies or at least exchanges of knowledge and experience. In particular there is a need for discussion in order to find a more global and integrated approach that does not depend solely on green technologies.

Europe is not a homogenous entity. The European population is not evenly spread and is highly concentrated in some areas. There are, among other things, growing cities at risk of urban sprawl, but also shrinking cities which are losing inhabitants. In fact, situations differ from one city to another in terms of identified challenges and the strategies to adopt in order to become more environmentally friendly.

History and trends in Europe:

- Demographic and urban booms after WW2 with the creation of New Towns and Satellite cities
- Eastern and Western European urban development patterns
- Emphasis on housing
- Importance of historic buildings and culture, the balance between old and new
- Dependence on the economy
- Sustainable development

Evolution of demography and housing demands in Europe:

- Ageing of the population
- New housing needs for vulnerable groups including solo mothers, migrant groups, the unemployed - social housing
- Search for “the quality of the place”

Growing cities and shrinking cities

- Old and new cities
- Small scale and town centres
 - Ecological areas
 - Consultation with communities

- Focus on town centres as the “hearts” of cities
- The need for regeneration, including buildings

Our objective: Towards low-carbon cities?

- How can cities be made more environmentally friendly? The covenant of mayors tool is a good example:
- Green cities = environmental cities? Territorial marketing?
- Chinese cities can also offer models: compact, public transport provision, etc.

There is no harmonisation of cities. In Europe cities are trying to find their way and in particular focus on territorial marketing and para-metering.

JIN Yongxiang, General Manager, Beijing Dayue Consulting Co., Ltd

Disconnection between urban design and construction, a result of governance

I would like to share my views on investment and financing for urban development from a government perspective. The past decade has witnessed burgeoning urban construction across China. We have made brilliant achievements in this regard, which, however, have resulted in plenty of problems. For instance, high-rise apartment blocks have mushroomed but are still largely deserted after failed attempts by the authorities and developers to attract residents. The phenomenon is dubbed “ghost towns/cities”, with empty houses, shops and unused roads. Additionally it is common to see that houses and apartments are built without proper support facilities such as sewage treatment stations and natural gas supplies, while access to hospitals and schools is also limited.

These problems are a result of disconnection between urban design and construction, while the root of the problem lies in the governance structure. In many cases local government leaders have hastily launched a number of new town/city development projects for the sake of quick and conspicuous political achievements. The government system, however, might have much more impact such as huge waste in urban construction resulting from different decisions and practices after a leadership transition. The construction of new towns is well prepared in technical terms, including urban design in all aspects, but the question is how we put those drawings and ideas into practice.

We have already carried out many PPP (Public-Private-Partnership) projects in China. After recent government encouragement concerning the provision of urban infrastructure, a lot more PPP projects will be implemented in the future.

I have several recommendations to ensure these PPP projects do well. The first is to improve existing policies and regulations. Japan's approach is a useful reference. They revised and improved PPP regulations three times in 10 years. Second, there should be in-depth studies on domestic projects in order to learn lessons and best practices, and avoid similar mistakes. Intermediaries will play a large role in this regard and are capable of pooling and then disseminating these lessons, experiences and good practices gained from different places.

Matt Cross, Executive Director of Inward Investment, Invest Bristol Bath, UK

Regeneration and Place Making in the UK - The Bristol and Bath approach

The city of Bristol goes back over a thousand years and was, until the turn of the last century, the second largest city in the UK. As a port trading regularly with Ireland, Bristol played an extremely important role in sea trade for hundreds of years, and the scale of business and trade grew. It also has the city of Bath, a UNESCO world heritage city globally recognised for its heritage and culture. Thus there is a lot of recognition and a lot of culture we need to be conscious of. Bristol City will be the European Green Capital in 2015.

History brings two things. It brings us credibility meaning that in Europe and the UK people recognise Bristol as a

successful place that has been successful throughout history, Bath the same way. But it also creates problems. The history of a city, in this case two cities, creates planning restrictions, and it creates a need to maintain it as well as a need for development and ongoing regeneration.

There is another point to make from a development point of view and a regeneration point of view. The city and region is very well contained and about 80% of the people who live in the region work there, which helps us a great deal in terms of the economy. It is also very successful and just an hour and a half away from London, which allows us to interact with the London economy. Bristol and Bath is the business powerhouse of the southwest of England, where innovation and success are part of the landscape. We have a diversified economy, creativity, advanced engineering and aerospace, financial services, environmental technology and microelectronics. Large-scale industrial distribution businesses are nurtured and developed, and a highly skilled workforce is never in short supply.

UK Formula for Regeneration

From the government point of view, the formula is about *enterprise zones, about localism, about diversification, using leverage, and unlocking potential – growth through success*. It's all about a policy of using the most effective partners and investors to progress that regional development. And eventually localism is a key component of government. Financing will often be a limiting factor in the development process, but we will use the resources of the private sector to avoid a bottleneck in development. The other part of this process is not limited to the development of the market but also includes promotion of the development of the entire city. Under writing this are a number of funds.

We established enterprise zones, realised the local enterprise partnership with diversification, and created the Temple Quarter Enterprise Zone and five other enterprise areas.

Temple Quarter Enterprise Zone:

Five years' property tax relief; infrastructure including superfast broadband; simplified planning; marketing and inward investment. Enterprise areas have the same but no Treasury funded rate relief.

We have set up 5G experimental broadband, the fastest broadband in the world. In the transformation process the public-private partnership project is very important. There is infrastructure to build and we see here a lot more public-private partnerships, as well as research and development facilities, Bristol University, and research centres are willing to work together with the Government.

This is Avonmouth Severnside, the heart of Bristol. And this is the oldest railway station in the world which was built to take the newest train line in the world, the first rail road between Bristol and London.

Avonmouth Severnside now: The largest brown field development site in western Europe, focus on low-carbon recycling, manufacturing and large-scale distribution; development of Green Energy Park signed off – first £135m of private sector equity being transferred; government funding in negotiation for £85m; new motorway junction; integrated flood protection; direct access to road and rail network.

There is also a port, but it is not just about being a business place, but also about immigrants and liberal space as well. Thus, alongside office buildings and large corporate sites, there are houses and smaller enterprise workspaces, building a real mix of workers. It is also a very green field along here, an area which includes central planning, probably the largest in set areas in the country. We are starting to progress that, starting to build the infrastructure and suddenly things begin to happen.

CAI Suisheng, President of Guangdong Real Estate Association, President of the South Real Estate Magazine

Market plays a key role in sustainable urbanisation

At lunch, colleagues of the Guangdong Energy Conservation Association asked me a question, a question I have been asked many times: When would China's real-estate bubble pop? I am going to share with you three stories:

one has taken place, one is possibly going to occur, and one is happening.

The first took place in *Meizhou* city, a relatively under-developed region in Guangdong Province. Seven years ago a developer, following government encouragement, rented several large hills in order to develop tourism real-estate projects. I have visited this project every year since its kick-off and it has become a national 4A resort district with three industries including tourism, a wedding industry and housing. There sort district takes only 1/20 of what were barren mountains seven years ago. There is obviously plenty to be done in future. This story illustrates what roles the real-estate industry can play, and it has two clear advantages – market-based and capital operations. We encourage developers, especially those rooted in small and medium sized cities and counties, to develop not only residences but more importantly something linked to different industries, including tourism, science and technology, culture, education and healthcare so as to improve all support facilities for production and living. Some people are against urbanisation being dominated by real-estate developers. But then, who is qualified as the main driving force? I am afraid there is no one because so far the real-estate sector has proved to be the most market oriented one in China. If the most viable and market-driven sector is excluded from the process of urbanisation, it is possibly necessary to rely on the government to take a lead in urban construction and operation, the opposite to the consensus that the market should play a decisive role in allocating resources.

The second story may occur someday. It is known that the urban-rural dual system has been the thorniest issue in China's process of modernisation for decades and an obstacle preventing China from further development at present. China's cities, in particular the large cities, are comparable to cities in developed countries in terms of wealth and modernisation. Rural areas in China, however, offer a quite different picture of dilapidated houses, contaminated water, poor sanitation and impoverished farmers. Without agricultural modernisation and improvement of the countryside, China's modernisation is doomed. I believe it is the market-oriented operation that China's modern agriculture and countryside have lacked. I have expected that a beautiful story would occur in which China's real-estate industry takes advantage of its market-driven and capital operations to combine with and advance China's agriculture.

The third story is one that is happening. SMEs, including small and medium sized developers, have difficulties in securing financing from banks, which favour larger enterprises. Those SMEs, based in small and medium sized cities and towns, play a critical role in integration with agriculture, and the challenge of financing needs to be solved. We are currently assisting real estate SMEs in Yangjiang, Guangdong Province, to establish private equity funds, with an attempt to use private capital to promote urbanisation. The story is continuing and we look forward to a perfect ending in a few months.

Finally, a response to the question mentioned at the beginning, "When will China's real-estate bubble pop"? My answer is that there is and will be no popping in the large cities, while in small and medium sized cities, especially at county and township level, we must head for a sustainable urbanisation.

FAN Lin, Vice President of Baiyue Investment Group Co., Ltd

Government's role should be redefined and the market should be allowed take a lead in the new process of urbanisation

First, a key issue to be identified is that of who will take the lead in the new process of China's urbanisation, the government or the market? This new urbanisation will be an extremely large and complex market with more than 2,000 counties and tens of thousands of towns. From my point of view this cannot happen without government support, but the government's role and functions must be redefined as guidance, supervision and service. Market-based enterprises/organisations will play a key part in developing sustainable cities. Three types of enterprise will gain huge opportunities in this new process of the urbanisation of China: 1) real-estate developers dedicated to industrial transformation and upgrading; 2) emerging industrial investors, including tourism industry investors, agribusiness investors and pension institutions, etc.; and 3) professional institutional investors.

Second, there are three stages in the systematic building of new cities and towns. The first is urban planning and design; the second is urban construction; and the third is city operation and management.

Third, financing difficulties for the real-estate sector have been a perennial issue due to the large risk of the

industry itself. But the good news is that banks and financial institutions are launching tailored products for the construction and development of small towns, and insurance companies and policy banks such as the National Development Bank have also introduced soft loans for urban infrastructure development. When designing projects we should take into account and sometimes cater to the needs of these financial service providers. Following these interactions between urban projects and financial institutions we will easily get financial support in implementing a project. In short, we should make good use of the capital market.

Conclusion of the first part of the Section 1 by Mrs Pascaline Gaborit

The workshop began with various presentations on urban construction, operations and financing. The main findings of the debates were:

- The economy is driven by resources... The current economic model cannot be sustained...
- In Chinese urbanisation there is a need to enhance reform - construction operation and financing cities... enterprises have accumulated experience
- In building new towns we have created a “ghost town” phenomenon (towns that are not occupied)
- There is a gap between planning and construction
- Local leaders began building new towns without sufficient cooperation and research
- There are many problems too because new towns change the pattern of the old town
- JIN Yongxiang brought 80 copies of a book about financing practices in urban construction
- Research on construction is needed
- There is a need to have more PPP projects (legal framework and large-scale research on project)
- **Current proposals for PPPs are good but in implementation (avoid intermediary agencies)**
- **Need for new urbanisation models with high-speed rail between cities**
- Question of climate change that creates city migrations, i.e. to Hainan
- Follow industry (diversify local economy) to avoid the case of Detroit in US
- Question of site/locations for new developments: why would we urbanise desert areas such as Inner Mongolia?
- There is a need to balance culture, industry heritage, as well as heritage and community investment
- There is a need to find a balance between all stakeholders including the local population
- Balance between the economic and social interest (as per debate currently going on in China)
- Need to find alternative to cars (avoid traffic congestion)
- Balance long and short term interests
- Choose the right industries: academic clusters etc.
- Find a balance between public and car transport (cases of Nantes and Singapore)
- **Build trust and credibility for investments**
- **Find innovation to counter local development debts** (at the end of 2010, 31 provinces and central government will have a debt of 10.7 trillion RMB that will threat local governments)
- The consistency and commitment of the public sector is essential in order to avoid systematic risks.

FAN Lin, Vice President of Baiyue Investment Group Co.,Ltd

I will respond very briefly on the matter of avoidance of ghost towns. First, the government should fully respect the laws of urban development. Second, when choosing a project site choose it cautiously because not all regions and/or cities are suitable for large-scale urbanisation. Third, homogeneity in China's urbanisation is a quite common phenomenon, which means that construction styles of many new towns and cities in China are look-alike. Avoid this, otherwise people and industry cannot be attracted.

LI Wenmin, Partner of JunZeJun Law Offices

Government maintains the dominant position in financing for urbanisation

I would like to share with you two sets of figures. The first relates to the debt of Chinese local governments. From 2011 to 2013 the State Council had audited different levels of local government debts: at the end of 2010 the debts of 31 provincial governments amounted to 10.7 trillion and by the end of 2012, based on incomplete statistics, debts of 36 local governments were expected to reach 181.7 trillion.

The second set of figures is about the financing status of the real-estate sector. Data from the past decade shows that bank loans in the industry account for 70-80% of its finance sources. Other sources of funding, such as overseas investment, only reached the peak level of 1.8% in 2008. The Chinese real-estate industry is currently heavily dependent on bank loans, whereby the risk of the entire industry passes to the entire financial system. The other well-known fact is that major banks in China are state-owned. The above figures show that government maintains the dominant position in financing for urbanisation in China.

Section II: Relationship between cities and countryside, suburban agriculture

Jacques Saint-Marc, Delegate of the President of the Intergovernmental Steering Committee on Urbanisation, France

Sustainable development, a permanent approach

Cities become established and built up day after day by their historical environment:

- Surrounding farmlands
- Water: wells, riversides, lakes, seas...
- These resources are rare
- "Cities are from countryside" Lewis Mumford in *"The City in History: Its Origins, Its Transformations, and Its Prospects"* (1961)

Le Havre as an example: Paris's seaside harbour was destroyed in World War II. In September 1944 Le Havre was razed to the ground.

Reconstruction based on the historic urban fabric was undertaken between 1945 and 1962. In 2000 there was a conversion of the harbour's spaces and industrial buildings; a large-scale improvement of the urban landscape and beautification operations; and a French and European regional development's operator.

The rebuilding master plan is 150 hectares. The reconstruction master plan's author is Auguste Perret: *"Ce que je veux, c'est faire quelque chose de neuf et de durable"*, octobre 1945

During Rebuilding (1947-1969) urban fabric was respected, the city was settled in its history and its public spaces improved (scale of walking) with the Oscar Neimeyer cultural centre.

These new apartments possessed the latest innovations including central heating. The width of streets allowed easily for tramways and a better share of the road in favour of public transport.

Quays and old industrial spaces are an opportunity to upgrade those areas and to preserve walking scales.

There is a blending of functions: school, shops, squares, offices and housing accommodation and their architectural quality.

Regional infrastructure

Example: Le Havre-Paris - 200km

- Motorway existing
- Transport by waterway (Seine) improving
- Fast train Paris-Le Havre : 1 hr 15 mins (2020)
- Investment: €10 billion
- New railway station

XIONG Caiyun, Associate Professor of the Chinese Rural Studies Research Institute of Huazhong Normal University

Urban farming, an approach to promoting urban-rural integration

As a favourable approach to facilitating urban-rural integration, urban farming should be further developed. Agriculture has functions of production, living and ecology, but traditional agriculture has long focused only on the productive aspect. Urban farming results from the needs of urban residents and integrates the productive, living and ecological functions of agriculture. It generates a variety of agro-industries with a combination of processing industry, tourism, exhibitions, export trade, logistics and distribution, etc. Urban agriculture offers a new idea for the issue of “where farmers go and where the capital flows”.

Urban farming is a comprehensive modern agriculture and there are a number of prerequisites for its development from different perspectives. For instance, in terms of operation urban farming is an industry which needs infrastructure, transport facilities, regional advantages, technologies, capital and management personnel and so on. From a market perspective it is market-oriented agriculture, and a sound and efficient market environment, a huge potential number of consumers with an upgraded consumption structure, is supposed to be the sine qua non. From the farmers’ perspective it requires professional farmers with qualified skills, capacity and facilities. In terms of rural areas urban farming makes the countryside a functional extension of cities, which means a tailored overall plan is a precondition. From the perspective of consumers it is a kind of safe agriculture and rules and regulations on safe production should be maintained.

Having mushroomed over the past years urban farming in China, especially that in inland cities, is now encountering a number of problems. Let’s take urban agriculture in Wuhan as an example. First, there is a lack of coordinated management. There has been no single authority to govern and coordinate the different stakeholders, including agricultural park operators, farmers, intermediaries and NGOs, resulting in the lack of integrated planning and management of new varieties, new technology development, agricultural training, standardised production monitoring, processing and marketing in the same region. The consequence is that different urban farming parks compete with each other and even fight with each other.

Second, urban farming is a relatively low-tech form of agriculture in most parts of China. Generally speaking, varieties and the structure of agro-products tend to look alike with weak market competitiveness and a low-level of organisation. Agricultural standardisation systems have not been established and high-techs such as agro-IT, biotechnology and engineering technology have not been widely applied. Ecological farming is still stuck in afforesting and landscaping, with little application of biotech and few initiatives on the reduction of urban pollution.

Third, many urban farming projects lack cultural and education elements. At present a number of urban agricultural activities are at a primary level of sightseeing agriculture, such as “agritainment” (agriculture plus entertainment), field picking, farm food and fishing. Those similar activities barely have distinctive cultural themes due to a failure to integrate local culture and customs. In the long run this kind of urban-farming-based tourism will become less and less attractive to tourists.

The fourth problem is that urban agriculture parks are run with poor management, including a shortage of managerial, technical and marketing personnel, a mismatch of hardware facilities with software development, insufficient operating and financing mechanism, and poor sanitation.

The fifth problem concerns the improvement of the ecological environment. Suburban farmland in Wuhan is currently seriously threatened by the large amount of fertiliser, improper treatment of industrial and domestic wastewater, acute rubbish pollution, and uncontrolled livestock manure emissions, and deterioration in agricultural water and soil quality. Additionally, look-alike urban farming leads to fiercely disordered competition which negatively impacts on the surrounding natural environment.

Sustainable urban agriculture is possible based on the integrated goals of economic, social, ecological and cultural benefits. It is always much easier to reach a consensus on the theory of sustainable urban farming development in academia. In practice, however, it is difficult for politicians, businessmen and farmers to voluntarily consider or accept such a consensus because of their own interests. Many EU countries have accumulated good experience and best practice in developing urban agriculture over the years.

FAN Lin, Vice President of Baiyue Investment Group Co., Ltd

Local-based urbanisation is a future trend of development

In the past two decades China’s urbanisation has been a spontaneous process with a constant stream of surplus rural labour forced into wealthy and large cities involved in urban construction. The rural population moves to developed and rich regions even a long distance away. In the next stage, however, there will be locally based urbanisation and social mobility will take place within a province, a district or a county.

Section III: Theories on cities and evolution of urban planning doctrines and methods

CHEN Shuo, Vice President of the Fuzhou Planning Design & Research Institute

Urban planning should combine space with human needs and integrate local culture

Urban planning actually involves space, so finding geographic beauty is the most important element. In addition, urban planners should have a deep understanding of human needs and the beauty of human nature, and unearth local culture and customs.

Marc Glaudemans, Professor of Urban Strategies, Architecture and Planning, European Urban Design Lab in Tilburg, the Netherlands

I will focus first on various local themes and then speak a little more about the think-tank.

I identified these four global themes and our working and our thinking is more or less structured along these lines.

One is urbanisation. The second is about cities, which has to do with the idea that our cities could actually be a formula, our buildings could be a formula and connecting with knowledge in the field of urban design and planning. The third is urban transformation, the continuous transformation going on within all cities all over the

world, a continuous process. The fourth is **social innovation**, where nowadays we tend to think differently about the production of cities, how we make cities - it supposed to be corporation and it has many more stake-holdings than the traditional once, state and real estate.

We live in a rapidly urbanised world and urbanisation is going on around the world. In one generation 80% of the world's citizens will live in cities. And that means we will have two billion inhabitants in new cities around the world. Urbanisation also takes time, because if you develop quickly you create many mediocre and boring results. That's the worst type we can leave for our children.

There are, of course, also very creative examples in China - for instance, the satellite tower here in Shanghai. It is a copy of a Swedish or European city. I am not sure this is a better model, but at least it's more creative.

And this one in the neighbourhood near Shanghai - again I am not sure this is a better model but at least it is not boring, it is interesting. I should actually have taken a picture just outside here, where you can see that if there is a lot of attention to the project you will get a better quality.

The second point is smart cities and is a little about the data. If you can connect the data you can view and manage the performance of your city, of your city systems, of infrastructure, of your energy projects, of your transport grid. If you link all this information together you can actually create better cities.

It involves a new way of thinking about, for instance, utilities. Energy in cities is not just a utility, it is a market and many different stake holdings are involved. If you think like this you will probably end up with better service for the customers and also with a market system. Thus there is a lot of potential in this new way of thinking of cities as complex systems.

It is not about creating this or that kind plan for skyscrapers, it is really about thinking about how the system works – it is about changing the engine of the city, not so much about changing the shape of the city.

In the end the objective should always be that in a smart city the citizens are smart, so you have to think for smart communities. For instance, you need to provide services for the citizens so they know there is a fuel station for their electric cars or access to roads where there are these kinds of services.

The third theme is urban transformation and this is about a city's need to be maintained continuously. Nowadays industries won't last for a century, so maybe after 30 years you will have to regenerate districts and buildings. In my own city we are going to transform the railway area with theatres, a university, new businesses and residential units.

The fourth theme is about social convention. This is about finding new ways of collaborating, how to involve citizens, how to involve scientists, how to involve philosophers, how to involve the real-estate developer. Thus it is about how to work together so we actually tackle the very problems that we face. I think this is the most interesting topic for the EU-China partnership.

In my practice we try to engage in all of these different topics for many different cities and to use design and design expertise in order to create more successful, more sustainable and more coherent urban environments. Therefore we organise master classes for young architects, young designers and young urban planners. And we always work with local talent as well as international experts. It is not academic, it is really practice-based and so usually the main city plan we really work on is a case that is really urgent for that city.

We started in 2007 and in the first four years were based in, and mostly worked in, Europe. We worked twice in Poland then moved on to Hungary. We worked in Ukraine, in Georgia and we worked in the Netherlands including Tilburg. Then we moved to Japan and carried out a number of projects and in two weeks from now have a master class on social innovation in Hanoi.

I would love to become involved in the Chinese case so came to Chengdu. Now I'm here I hope to be involved in the Chinese case as well, because it is such an interesting place to be.

LV Jin, Executive Director of R&F Properties

I will share with you a story from the perspective of an entrepreneur. It begins with hotels. In 1995, the world's richest man, Bill Gates, visited Guangzhou for the first time. He met with the city's leadership and gave a speech at the White Swan Hotel, one of the best at that time, and then flew to Hong Kong after his official agenda. Eighteen years ago Guangzhou was not as developed and influential as it is today. According to an internal source, the reason Bill Gates chose to reside in Hong Kong during his first visit to Guangzhou was that he had not heard of any famous or trustworthy hotels in Guangzhou, although the city already housed several five-star hotels. Today the Grand Hyatt Hotel is attractive enough to be home to our distinguished participants from China and Europe for three joyful days. What I want to say is that it is critical for a city to have hotels with well-equipped facilities and a widely known brand.

FU Wei, General Manager Assistant of Meixihu investment (Changsha) Co., Ltd

First, how do we handle the relationships between the city and nature? As a matter of fact, no one is able to separate themselves from this relationship. What we are repeatedly discussing today, including low-carbon, energy saving, ecology and environmental protection matters, is an approach to achieving the harmonious development of a city and nature.

Second, China is following the policy of public land ownership while western countries are implementing the policy of private land ownership. The two land systems have the most basic difference which results in essential differences in urban planning and construction in China and Europe. In China land rights are relatively unprotected and unrestricted while in Europe the rights are well protected and confined. Not surprisingly, with the backdrop of such a political environment and different land systems, there are two different ways of urban development - positively driven urbanisation and naturally developed urbanisation. China is at a completely different stage of urbanisation compared to Europe, and this rests on a number of conditions including population, urban sizes, the way of thinking, political system, cultures and lifestyles. We should therefore accept these differences and try to skim the cream off urbanisation in China and Europe to contribute to our respective development.

Next I will introduce a project my company is currently undertaking and hope to discuss with you some new ways of urban planning.

The first is the idea of anti-planning, which means that we determined what could not be planned and which natural areas could be preserved in the first place. The region concerned in this project fully respected the status quo by focusing on links with mountains, water bodies and all geographic features.

Second, we faced a contradiction in mixed functions and separated functions. After the introduction of the *Athens Charter* the concept of the Functional City came to dominate in urban planning. A functional city is composed of the different needs of living, working, recreation and circulation and so on. The past century therefore has witnessed functional-based zones in urban planning, and a fully functional city is connected by a sophisticated social network. Nevertheless, commuting between the separate zones needs traffic, which means heavy traffic is an urban headache in most cities. In fact, functional-based urban planning advocated by the *Athens Charter* is out-dated. In our project we attempt to mix urban functions within a certain region so as to reduce commuting time and mobility needs in daily life.

The third way is building socially based cities. Socialisation and the sharing of public resources and energy will be a breakthrough in mitigating the challenges urban resources and energy are facing. We are trying our best to make, among other things, transport resources, green spaces and infrastructure for general public use. For instance, we encourage citizens take buses and metros instead of private cars.

Edwin CHAN, Professor of Department of Building and Real Estate, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Group Leader of Land Use: Research Institute of Sustainable Urban Development

Urban Planning should be people-oriented

I will share with you the experiences of Hong Kong's urbanisation with a special emphasis on problems we are facing now.

Sustainability is the "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs". Sustainable quality involves environmental sustainability, economic sustainability and social sustainability. And achieving a balance between these three attributes is imperative!

In 2012 the HK PolyU set up the Research Institute of Sustainable Urban Development (RISUD) with 26 research labs to cover all aspects, including construction safety, sustainable land use, urban housing policies, virtual construction, urban infrastructure planning, urban micro-environment, urban noise mitigation, renewable energy, building energy and automation, sustainable transport systems, urban ecosystems, indoor air quality, high-speed railway safety, urban waste management, sustainable materials and infrastructure, regional air quality, infrastructural monitoring, urban geo-hazards, urban navigation and mobility, management of underground utilities, geo-spatial technology in urban development, urban big data computing and wireless networking, nano-materials for the environment, environmental energy, corporate environmental management, and sustainable public design. These topics mainly focus on the technical aspect of urban development rather than the software of a city. I believe, however, that the most important thing in urban planning is to be people-oriented.

This is the land utilisation map of Hong Kong. Perhaps in your mind Hong Kong is a very crowded and dense city with little available land, but the fact is that nearly 70% of the land is completely unexploited— woodland, shrub land, grassland and wetlands. These protected areas (approximately 705 km²) are the real Hong Kong. We cherish them very much.

Improve resource utilisation of land and buildings to build compact cities

I agreed with Mr FU Wei that we should intensively develop public transport to reduce commuting needs, but it is very difficult to develop mixed functional communities. A quality compact city goes for high-density development, leaves more green spaces and achieves social inclusion. First, high-density buildings are a must, but tall and taller buildings will cause a series of issues such as visual interest, wind effects, heat island effects and lack of open spaces, etc.

The other issue is transport traffic. In building a compact city, the government must care for public transport, considering which parts of the city are within walking distance. A comparison of tall buildings in modern cities and the *hutong* courtyards of ancient Beijing shows that the old courtyards are of high density. It was even predicted that should the energy crisis continue only the *hutong* courtyards would survive in 100 years' time because the ancient *hutong* and yards can be reached by walking, as opposed to the energy-dependent modern urban buildings. Transport is actually killing us.

A compact city therefore needs to curb urban sprawl and make more efficient use of land and infrastructure resources. Could we focus dense development on a small area, which means creating an interesting townscape and plenty of green space around it? In fact, this is not an illusion and there are many small and beautiful yet compact towns in Europe. People live there happily with plenty of unused land around. We know that China is developing a number of so-called new towns, but will these new creations be mixed-functional-based and can they solve the traffic issue locally?

Social-economic considerations in compact cities

When building compact cities, we must consider socio-economic factors. First, we should address socio-economic polarisation and segregation. Second, any dramatic changes to be implemented should be done in ways that are acceptable to local residents. Third, we should connect neighbourhoods and strengthen the role of the town centre. Fourth, we should provide local residents with employment opportunities and livelihood for the very poor urban dwellers and local villagers. In short, we should be aware of what the local residents want.

Compared to building a brand-new urban area, I think it is more likely to achieve urban renewal, making the existing compact cities more liveable. In this process we will frequently encounter similar problems to those on the Chinese mainland – demolition and resettlement. Have we considered the ecological needs of the existing residents? First, people-first by preserving local characteristics and expressing identity for local culture; second, preserve the existing community as far as possible; third, re-provide the familiar community space for

continuation of their social networks; and fourth, environmentalism should include human ecological needs.

Low-carbon/Green City

Another feature of quality human settlement is the low-carbon green city. In my view, compact cities can meet the requirements of the low-carbon green city. According to global CO₂ emissions by sector, carbon emissions in buildings, including electricity, heat and construction, account for 47.5%, followed by transportation (25%), land-use change and forestry (22%) and others (5.5%). High-tech, such as environmental facades, can be employed in the renewal of old buildings.

In compact cities there is still space for high-rise buildings. We hope to apply a new set of requirements for these, but it is unlikely that new rules and regulations will be introduced immediately. We must therefore use a number of indicators in order to address specific issues in the high-rise built environment, such as ventilation, day lighting, views, heat island effect and open space and greenery.

The three key elements in building design in Hong Kong so as to enhance environmental sustainability are building separation, building set back and site coverage for greenery. Separation is encouraged when building on large development sites. The Hong Kong Green Building Council offers a bonus plot ratio (10% on GFA concessions) as an incentive to attract green building design by the real-estate developers. For such a dense city as Hong Kong, the preferential policy of 10 % GFA means a jackpot.

FU Wei

As a matter of fact, demolition and resettlement innovation requires political changes at the higher level. What we have done is that the government-backed public platform, rather than real-estate developers, takes care of the demolition and communicates with residents. The approach is market-based with reasonable and acceptable compensation to the affected local people for the loss of their houses. The reason a great number of demolition disputes take place in China is that the local government is unable to provide enough money to compensate.

We have two approaches for compensation: in cash or in kind (resettlement). Not everyone, however, is satisfied with either means of compensation. In this case we need a balance between the interests of the majority/the general public and that of the minority. The answer will be different in China and Europe, because the former follows a policy of public land ownership while the latter has a policy of private land ownership.

Edwin CHAN

Urban design needs to take into account the public interest, which will inevitably have an impact on the government's decisions on land sales. How do you see this?

FU Wei

In China extensive and inefficient land use is not only a result of unscientific urban design but more likely a consequence of existing industrial policies. I appreciate the idea and practices of COMPACT CITIES, which is in particular a possible solution for China's sustainable urbanisation.

Marc Glaudemans, Professor of Urban Strategies, Architecture and Planning, European Urban Design Lab in Tilburg, the Netherlands

We can conclude that there is no universal European system. In the Netherlands, for example, you have land ownership but you also have lend-lease constructions. In Amsterdam no one owns the land; the government owns the land. But as an owner of a property you lease the land for 30 or 100 years, and even then there is an eternal lease. So you will never leave your land, but you have a sort of a security in that you can lease it forever. If there is to be building on that specific site your negotiation position is much better because you have a sort of right to be there. So this will definitely affect the price of an eventual relocation.

I would like to talk about the compact city, the concept, because the compact city causes many issues and also avoids many issues. Transport is reduced to the minimum, because if it is small, this is another reduction in

transport. People tend to be, in Italy for example, very romantic and idealistic, and pretend to have a very high quality life although in this particular place there are no jobs. These places are too small and you can only live there if you are either rich or retired, or if this is your second house. So these communities are not realisable. Thus the compact cities of the 21st century should be larger, should be well connected to the region, to the world, should be accessible, should have identity, and of course provide an affordable quality life for different populations, not only for working people but also for children. In Hong Kong, it is also geographical features, I think, that more or less force the development. But these conditions are modern; cities tend to grow because it is easier to just start a development. So is the compact city model feasible in Chinese cities, and if so how do we create the right conditions?

Edwin CHAN

The consensus among Chinese is that land resources should be used more cautiously and efficiently, but how we can achieve this and to what extent should we use the land cautiously. In the past Hong Kong had retained country parks, which have been prohibited for exploitation and use. But with the improvement of peoples' lives and increasing demands for economic growth in the past decade local people are beginning to discuss whether or not to develop these country parks.

Can compact cities provide us with jobs? Theoretically, compact cities are able to mix urban functions with all walks of life making a living. This is easier said than done, however, especially at the very beginning. Take Hong Kong as an example. There is no industry but only a service sector in the metropolis. I believe that compact cities are more suitable for tertiary industry and it takes time for industry to develop gradually in such a place. A car manufacturer will not do business in a compact city where cars are discouraged. A gradual development of compact cities does not necessarily mean an inability to make money. Why are large cities more attractive than small cities? Because large cities have many more opportunities and more efficient land use, thus generating more values and profits. Similarly, a compact city can learn from those larger cities how to generate more value from limited resources and land, and by consuming less energy.

CHEN Shuo

I will propose several subjects for further discussion and study. The first is protection and renewal of old cities. The second is an urban development model. For instance, CBDs are springing up all over China but are there any standards of quality, comprehensive service systems and improvement? Third, Europe has a great number of original features; in particular countries such as Germany, France and Britain are making innovations in technology development and applications. This would be a direction for further exchanges. The last one is the Garden City.

LV Jin

La Defense was built 20 years ago, while China's CBDs are burgeoning. I suggest European and Chinese counterparts do more research in this regard.

FU Wei

I think there are three aspects to pay attention to in China's new round of urbanisation. First, the financing model has changed from purely government investment in infrastructure such as roads and bridges to the engagement of private investment. Developers have become involved in urbanisation. Secondly, this new round of urbanisation is far more likely to cause a change in China's land policy. Third, urbanisation on such a scale will technically generate plenty of new models and approaches.

Edwin CHAN

Urban planning and construction has three stages. The first stage is hardware construction. The second is social planning and build-up. The third stage will touch upon the political situation, such as system and mechanism. China is currently between the first and second stages, with many difficulties and struggles. It takes time. As an old saying states: "Soft fire makes sweet malt."

Additionally, when referring to the renewal of old cities we do not necessarily mean those cities with cultural or historic sites; instead, we can start from the common ones. Furthermore, second-tier cities in China are also of

great concern because they will face similar problems in further development. Precautions taken as early as possible will be good practice when it comes to preventing similar mistakes.

Workshop 2: Sustainable cities and societies

Section 1: Urbanisation that Serves Mankind and Social Cohesion Policies

Yang Huabin, Director of the Administrative Committee of Yongqing Taiwan New Industrial City

The Yongqing Taiwan New Industrial City takes two approaches to improving urban construction. In terms of land use we mainly employ a trusteeship and the land bank system, which effectively mitigates the confrontation between farmers and government. Farmers reap the benefits thereof. The per capita income of farmers increased to 8200 RMB in 2012 from 2700 RMB in 2010. In terms of people, we have focused on the training and education of farmers. On the one hand we have been working with related institutions, especially with the China Development Institute (Shenzhen) to organise training classes for farmers to increase their knowledge and access to better-paid job opportunities. On the other, the elderly, women and children are widely left behind in most Chinese rural areas due to young adults pouring into much more developed regions in order to earn bread for their families. We therefore pay more attention to the groups that are left behind and enhance their role in rural development and integration with urbanisation.

ZHANG Renbiao, Professor of Tongji University School of Public Science and International Relations, Director of Institute of Urban Sociology, Vice President of the Institute of China Urban Sociology

I would like to speak about spatial justice. Economists focus only on the value of a district's location. But it does matter when the issue arises of indigenous people being resettled in less profitable areas and the good locations being left to the rich. Another matter concerns the prolonged conflict of land use in China's urbanisation. When rural land is used for the purposes of urban development, city dwellers benefit from the valuable land resources. But are those farmers who lose their land rights fairly compensated for their losses?

How do we achieve spatial justice in the process of urbanisation? I believe this could be a subject for exchange between Chinese and European participants. The civil unrest which occurred in the suburbs of Paris and other French cities in 2005 is worthy of consideration. If farmers are driven away to the suburbs and the downtown areas are left to the developers and the wealthy, the seeds of unrest are planted.

Pierre Bauby, President of the RAP (Reconstruire l'action publique), reporter of the document prepared by UCLG for Europe

In the European Union, with 28 member states and 22 different languages, we also have problems understanding what we call "public services". This is not the same in England as it is in France, etc.

What is the unity and diversity in terms of public services in Europe, the phenomenon of the Euro-dimension of public services, responsibilities of local authorities, management systems and participative governance? The methodology we used was to study how to manage water, sanitation, electricity, local transport, broadband access, and the childcare and elderly care sectors in 31 countries, not just European Union member states but other countries in communication with European organisations.

What is the situation in Europe for local public services today? There are specifics because there is a very long history in Europe of local governance, autonomy, and self-government of local governance public services.

Historically each European country had its own system of public services with its own terms, its own specific organisation. There is therefore a great deal of diversity in Europe. But there is also unity in this field. Diversity and unity: there is unity when we try to do something together, a common perception, but it is not standardisation. There is a common ground and also a lot of diversity in the situation in each country, each locality, and each town.

There are three phenomena in Europe: the phenomenon of Europeanisation, thus common grasps and conceptions; national situations and traditions continue to exist; and specifics for each sector such as water, telecommunications, etc.

At the European level there is firstly the European vision with European Union policies, treaties and laws, but there is also another specific to Europe which is the existence of the European Council that serves Europe since 1950. This is an organisation which endeavours to define common points of view, and we have a charter of local autonomy for cities.

When we speak about services of general economic interest at the European level, I tried to define and to use what I call the magic square of these services. In one field you have internal bargain and competition. Services of general economic interest are not outside the bargain, they are inside. But on the other side there are also public service obligations which include the right of access for each inhabitant, solidarities, and public policies. There is a tension between these two parts of the square. There are not only two points; there is a third, which is the principle of subsidiarity. The European Union does not decide for all Europe - competences are shared between the European Union, member states and local authorities; this is the principle of subsidiarity. The fourth point is the European politic of cohesion, economy, and social and territorial cohesion.

When we are studying services of general interest we must always take into account these four points, which are inside the square. I will be very brief about sectorial specifics - we study water and sanitation, solid waste collection, local public transport, electricity supply, broadband access, childcare and elderly care. Each sector has its own specifics.

First comes the responsibilities of local authorities. There is a new situation in Europe today. Previously there was very often exclusive competence of one level of organisation and administration. Today we have multi-level governance and it is very important to combine these levels. This is not exclusive competence, it is not hierarchical; there is a cooperative partnership between the different levels of municipality. So we need for each activity, for each local public service, to decide what the best level of organisation is. What is at territorial level best way to organise these services. The same is not true of water as the resource is very local, but there is also a common problem for local transport. This is at urbanisation level while for electricity coordination is needed at national level.

The second problem is the management of each service of general interest. Historically in Europe the main parts of local services are managed by public authorities at the national or local level through public enterprises. But for some years the choice of management mode between direct management or delegation management to private companies, to private entities and to what we call PPP, public and private partnerships. The study shows that in Europe there is not a one mode of management with universal superiority over others. Authorities must decide case by case which management route they decide to take. Changing the mode of management, through privatisation and private management, we come back to municipalisation of management in the fields of water or electricity in France or in Germany or the UK. So the main issue is for local authorities to have the choice of deciding which mode of management they want.

The second issue is the funding of local public services. How should these services be financed? We have a great deal of choice. With free access for every citizen it is pay by taxes, or on the other side full cost recovery from the user. Between these two situations there are obviously intermediate situations. At the European level we now

have through the Lisbon Treaty a new word: “affordability”. These services must be affordable for everyone. This is not simple because there is a crisis. There is a great deal of unemployment now and there are large numbers of poor people, so how to assume affordability of many services is a new challenge for local authorities to manage. The best way is to develop a participative governance of local public services to organise the expression of the needs of the population, each category of population and each suburb, and then to decide the priorities and the role of local authorities. Those elected to positions need to decide the priorities and organise strategies in order to have complete access to these services with participation of all stakeholders.

That representation is what I call the partnership governance of local services. This partnership is useful in order to have better public services at a European level but I think it is also very useful for China. China and Europe are not the same but they need practices in this field.

CAI Wenfang, Chairwomen of the Rural Women Development Foundation Guangdong

Rural women and children should be specially cared for and included in urbanisation

First I would like to take this opportunity to describe the Rural Women Development Foundation. It is the first non-public welfare foundation committed to promoting rural women’s development in China. Paying close attention to sustainable development of rural areas, our foundation is oriented towards rural women and children (including migrant women and children in cities), seeking to help them to develop in a variety of ways, including cultural life, health, rights and interests protection as well as capacity building.

The reason why my organisation and I are engaged in this urbanisation forum is that rural women and children are the most susceptible to rapid urbanisation. Almost at the bottom of society, members of this underprivileged group are unlikely to help themselves when facing difficulties. We know that a number of government officials are present today and it is my hope that an NGO such as us could be noticed and heard, and our strong vitality noted.

Recent government encouragement for the development of civilian society has given more confidence to NGOs. China invested 0.6% of its GDP in civilian society organisations in 2012 while in the United States 7% of GDP went to the sector. China’s NGOs shall have a huge potential for development and I hope the government can create a favourable environment. The past two years have witnessed a burgeoning development of Chinese civil organisations, which goes hand in hand with government support and favourable attitudes and policies.

I hope the government and enterprises will apply many more resources and give greater freedom to NGOs. I believe NGOs will definitely, with more energy and vitality, play an indispensable role in the new round of urbanisation. It is a trend that cannot be ignored.

CHEN Jianwen, Director of the Legislative Affairs Office of Changsha City

The Legislative Affairs Office, through the provision of legal services, functions as the general counsel of municipal government. We are not policy makers but are deeply involved in the whole process of policy-making and legislative designs in urbanisation.

I would like to share with you two ideas from the government’s perspective. First, the government should change consciousness and renew ideas in terms of policy design. A change of consciousness means that urbanisation shall attract new citizens rather than treating migrants as outsiders or passers-by. In 2012 there was a 2.07 million floating population in the city of Changsha, accounting for 50% of the working population. These people have become a new driving force for local social and economic development. In the light of urban construction and management, Chinese large and medium-sized cities have become increasingly dependent on such a force.

The idea of renewal means that policy designs will be service-oriented by innovating the content and approaches of services, and by paying special attention to protecting the interests of newcomers. Conventional wisdom holds that the migrant population is a group of urban troublemakers. A great number of Chinese cities are imposing a

“residence permit” on the migrant population. This, however, is proving to be an undesirable product in Changsha with newcomers thinking the permit disrespectful and strongly resisting it. Additionally, public services attached to the permit are not ideal. The government will renew and change traditional ideas when designing and making policies, providing quality public services and ensure the due interests of new residents.

Second, the design of urban policies will be social security and cohesion oriented. In the process of urbanisation we should particularly concern ourselves with two groups: migrant workers and landless farmers due to land acquisition. Both of these two groups are major subjects for policy design. In this aspect the range of policies will be expanded to a systematic institutional design covering housing, employment, healthcare, family planning, education, etc. In addition the management mechanism should be changed from crime prevention and public security-based to government-led and resident-based.

FAN Zhiming, Secretary General of Teach for China NPO

Make young migrants a part of cities and become a driving-force for urban development

I am going to share my experiences on how we change traditionally disadvantaged resources and groups into useful and meaningful resources and even a driving force for society in some circumstances, with appropriate mechanisms.

I used to be one of them, a young rural migrant. Please allow me to quote Mr Pierre CALAME from the book ***Urbanisation: China and Europe***. “I am a father, and a grandfather. Parents have obligations to educate and guide their children especially in childhood. Parents like us who have resided in cities for generations know well about the education system, and understand how schools operate, so we can help our kids, sometimes even help them with homework. For migrants, however, these are impossible because they know little about the rules of social lives and ways of placing themselves in cities. For these immigrant parents, their inability to pass on the knowledge and experiences to their children and help them better integrate into the urban society is a torture.”

Actually this is the key issue my organisation has been managing to tackle. We are working with half a million young people at *Dalang* in north Shenzhen, a migrant neighbourhood with a very young and floating population. We found a wealth of resources in *Dalang* far beyond our expectations. Some of the young migrants are contributing to social capital in such fields as social innovation, corporate social responsibility and philanthropy. They are creating social and cultural life in the migrant neighbourhood. My organisation is working together with government, enterprises, academia and NGOs to create a *Dream Space* for those young migrant people.

We discuss with them the steps of leading an ideal life in this city and then give as much help as possible in the *Dream Space*. The Space is designed as an open area accessible to everyone. The 24-hour library, situated in the most attractive area in the Space, is a public place under the management of volunteers. The courtyard is a stage for social and culture life. Section B of the Space has essential services for the youth provided by government at all levels, including family planning, employment, counselling and so on. Section C is a self-study area with collaboration from educational institutions, and Section D is an open incubator for citizens - cultivating civilian society leaders.

I believe that many young people will live up to their ideals with a passion and efforts beyond our imagination because of their love for life.

Peter Ramsden, Pole manager (in England), URBACT expert (Moderator)

One thing I found very interesting about this presentation was first of all the notion of this “youth group” the “smart keys” ... All of our societies in every part of the world have a similar type of out-group. I found the idea that we need that group, people who have both been transformed and are themselves transformative, a very useful idea. I think it is true in every part of the world that even in groups which we think of as alienated we can find the new leaders of tomorrow.

The city I live in, London, has become since 2011 a majority-minority city, it means that more people in London come from outside the UK or from minority ethnic groups born in the UK. It also means that in my old neighbourhood there are 50 languages spoken by children at the local school. What I find interesting is that even though in a Chinese city your migrant question is a “Han-Chinese” question to a large degree, in my city it is about 50 different languages and cultures. In fact the problem is very similar. It is a problem of alienation, of loss of identity, of human rights. What I see in your presentation is very much that out of a group in which no one has very high expectations we can find new hope and new guidance. And for me this is really an important message of how we can do this, how operationally we can find people in these minorities who can do new things. I spoke of social innovation earlier on and I saw it in your slide. We need something like a social entrepreneur, the people in our society who seek out and test these new innovations.

CAI Wenfang

The European Union comprises different nationalities with different histories and at different stages of development. How do they reach consensus?

Pierre Bauby

I think we invent new concepts, new balance. When we built the European Union, European integration, and maybe for 20 or 30 years after, we did not build a new traditional state, we built something new that never existed before in history. It is a new public authority but not a state as a traditional state is. There is not a European government; we do things together because it is both in our common interest and in the interest of each member state, each participant ... It is a very difficult challenge because no one has a complete answer to this question. When you look at European integration it is not a continuous process because we face difficulties, we look for solutions. It is more of a stop-go process. It is a difficult challenge we face in Europe but it is the same as you face in China.

ZENG Zhen

The European Union was established on the basis of seeking common ground and preserving differences. In terms of public policies, different countries take different modalities to resolve their differences.

Peter Ramsden

When we look at the really big challenges facing us as human race, those challenges like climate change, poverty, etc., these problems are less and less able to be solved. They can be solved only by a combination of forces, including the citizens themselves. I think one of the things we’ve learned through the internet and the mobile phone is that the citizen becomes a much more important agent in the resolution of problems. So the question is how do we mobilise all forces, how do we mobilise the private sector, how do we mobilise the citizens, governments at various levels. And this is what we start to mean by governance rather than just one actor working in isolation.

Participant

China will encounter the integration of different ethnic groups, cultures and even languages in the process of urbanisation. How do you tackle the similar issue in Europe? Do you have any experiences or lessons?

Peter Ramsden

You are right that we have had to deal with many different types of migration, we have free movement of labour within the EU, but because of our colonial history and other issues, we have also accepted migrants and refugees from many other parts of the world. And in earlier presentations on this at the previous EU-China Forum meeting in Beijing in 2008, and also the Shanghai expo, one response I would say is that integration is an active process. If you leave the question of integration entirely to natural forces, you will fail.

The first thing is that it is an active process; the second is that it takes time but you need to focus particularly on the economic aspects of integration. In the parts of Europe where integration is at world best it was mainly because the second generation especially has been able to catch up with the host population. The third thing is that integration is not a simulation of a melting-pot, people don't start becoming in some way different even after one or two generations. We need to respect people's differences and even celebrate them. This is very difficult for our politicians because diversity is a real challenge. But in general this has worked better than trying to suppress differences.

Krisztina Keresztely, Urban Expert, Act consultants, Budapest, Hungary

I just wanted to add an idea about, how to pay attention to avoiding segregation when dealing with immigration. I thought about the remark you made about pointing out the fact that some people are really able to create something, or change the world as you said. But on the other hand, just to achieve the fact that many people are integrated and can also achieve the best result in their lives and create local communities and so on, there is a need to create other services such as education, better quality of life so it is not about dealing with good immigrants and bad immigrants if you understand what I mean.

Pierre Bauby

I think that this story of European Union is quite a good example, not perfect, but quite a good example. In the beginning the European Union had six member states which were quite homogenous in economic, social and cultural terms. Now there are 28 member states and perhaps even more soon. This process of integration came from people with different traditions, different cultures and different levels of economic development. This is the reason the EU progressively invented a policy of cohesion. This was not to oblige newcomers to adopt exactly the same way of life ... It is a continuous process of cohesion. Maybe it is better to use the term cohesion rather than integration because often people understand integration as meaning "we have to adapt exactly to what the former members have done".

ZHANG Renbiao

There are plenty of Turkish immigrants in Germany but no specific residential areas such as Chinese Town in Paris have been formed. Why? Is there any policy resulting in the phenomenon?

Peter Ramsden

There is a third paradox because in fact the country that would be more supportive of something like a Chinatown would probably be France because it has the belief in the citizen as a common standard. Britain or the Netherlands on the other hand are more multicultural. But it is true that Germany's attitude to its Turkish migrants initially was that these were temporary - but that lasted until 2005 by which time they had been temporary for 35 years. This is an important thing for China to understand: the migrants you get are the migrants you get. Many of them will stay wherever they come from, whether it is from inside the country or other places. This is one of the paradoxes of migrations.

Krisztina Keresztely

I am not a specialist in Chinese immigration but I think it is a very complicated subject. I know that, for example, in Budapest where the Chinese arrived at the beginning of the 90s they never formed Chinese neighbourhoods. They are everywhere in the city. It is because these people are from different parts of China. They did not arrive in one group or in relationships, or in family unification. Maybe in Paris the Chinese community formed in another way. I think too that the two Chinese neighbourhoods in Paris are completely different. The first is for tourists, the kind of classic Chinese neighbourhood, but the second is completely mixed with other minorities, especially Maghreb communities. There were many problems between the Chinese immigrants and the Arabic minorities. There were even demonstrations and big political problems. I think it is much more a mixed neighbourhood with different minorities in the Paris case.

Section 2: Public Services and Social Security

Krisztina Keresztely, Urban Expert, Act consultants, Budapest, Hungary

Social Housing and Urban Renewal in Central and Eastern Europe

I will speak about a specific region of Europe - Central Eastern Europe – and about two very important elements of social sustainability of cities, social housing and urban renewal.

I would like to emphasise specifically the question of transition, because Eastern Europe is a kind of a transition between the socialist era and the capitalist one, the democratic and the one-party system, although it already has more than 20 years of development.

We take this region of Central Eastern Europe in a very wide sense as ranging from the Czech Republic to the Caucasian countries, but of course it has different sub-regions.

What are the main elements of the transition of those countries? I think this is a concept which can be strange because every country is in transition in a way. I would like to stress two facts about this transition. First, we've said many times that these are neo-liberalist systems that formed in these countries. We have to see also, however, that changing from a one-party, central planning system to a democratic and pluralist system naturally has extremes or some negative effects and this is why in these countries very liberalist policies have been implemented. This is the first point. The other is decentralisation, the withdrawal of the state from basic services, from very elementary services, and the transfer of those to local authorities. Local authorities, local governments, became independent, autonomous political units and acquired strong competencies and important tasks, such as local services in education, health, housing, social housing, etc.

Housing has been transferred from the state to the local authorities. This had a most important effect on housing and especially the social housing system. What is called the East-European housing model had been dissolute. This means that in the housing stock in the public housing market, there was a specific system of public housing, and one important characteristic is that social housing as such did not exist. The redistribution of housing was based mainly on the network of the people and the political and social status of the people who applied for public housing.

Local government therefore became the most important actor in public housing but in the meantime two parallel processes began almost simultaneously in every country: privatisation of housing and restitution. Privatisation means that, for a relatively low price, flats were sold to the tenants who lived there. This is how public housing became private. The other phenomenon was restitution, which was much less important.

This, especially privatisation of housing, led to two things. The first was that public housing became very thin. The other is that privatisation led to growing inequalities and segregation within cities.

At the state level there are practically no policies, or they are concentrated on targeted benefit programmes, but there are no strategic social housing policies. On the other hand, the economic crisis had a strong effect on local communities and now that affordability of housing is decreasing the problem of a lack of social public housing is becoming even more important.

First, people have less income, but there are also many different structures of debts, and people are no longer able to afford it. This is related to the problem of housing rights, an increasing problem in these countries especially because the political systems are also changing ... There are not many solutions but there are many partial solutions. One good thing is that people are beginning to speak of this problem. There is a proposal to create social rental agencies. We will see whether it can work and whether politicians will adopt this idea. The

other solution involves help for the homeless and other vulnerable groups through legal assistance, personal support and social work.

I would like to talk about another element of urban development: urban renewal. In all of these countries urban renewal was not a practice, or almost nothing happened until the political transition. So the main effect was on historic inner city areas, which were very, much houses constructed by the turn of the 19th century and inhabited by people on the lower socio-economic scale. Urban renewal in many countries, in many cities, began after 1990 but was mainly based on physical renewal in inner-city areas. As this urban renewal was also a kind of competence on the local level, many local governments used this in the frame of urban competition, so related urban renewal to the idea that gentrification is a kind of progress in the city. It is a way to clean the city and to create an attractive environment for higher status people.

As the state withdrew from local policies and as the private sector was introduced, it unfortunately led in many cases to unclear procedures and even to local corruption.

The main phases of this development were, in brief: In the 1990s there was mainly a process of physical renewal of the inner city areas, and since the 2000s, especially in those countries that further integrated into the European Union and had many previous programmes from Europe as well as acting in cooperation with Eastern European cities or groups of experts, urban renewal strategies were at city level. In spite of that urban renewal was still very weak and quite isolated, especially the social element of urban renewal that was rarely emphasised.

Most of the countries that integrated in the European Union in 2004 had a mass of financial programmes with many having the single objective of urban renewal. Launching such programmes was a very important tool and from that time became an important part of city development. Nevertheless we must mention that often these European programmes involved some constraints that led to difficulties in harmonising the project with the needs of local stakeholders.

This is an example from Budapest, and is an area next to the city centre with lower status people, a high percentage of public housing. Mostly Roma people lived there. The decision of the government was to destroy one part of this area and to build a completely new district. It was based on the fact that the people who lived there had to be relocated. One section of them were owners who received new houses while the tenant received other flats within the district or compensation that allowed them to buy a house in one of the villages where prices were lower. Then the crisis came. The whole project stopped and now we have one part of the project on the left side on the picture, while the other is completely empty with a community garden and other types of functions. So we can say that this was a project which, from the start, was not well conceived and not a great success.

Another example is also in Budapest just next to this previous area. This is a neighbourhood with the same characteristics - a high percentage of public housing and low status people, and inhabited by Roma people. It became a kind of pilot project for social urban renewal in Budapest with different phases. Now it is in the third phase. In the first, however, it was a kind of small project with only the rehabilitation of four buildings, the creation of a community house. The renewal of the buildings was mainly limited to the renewal of courtyards with the participation of the tenants. It was a participation programme but in reality was mainly based on the involvement of tenants in making their houses nicer, and especially their gardens or certain parts of their house. In the second and third phases it was already a European Union programme financed by the European Regional Development funds within the framework of specific policies for spatial and social development. Thus the participatory part of this programme is decreasing and more and more emphasis is given to physical renewal even though it also has social elements. One of the reasons for this fact is that the European programme needs to plan the phases before the application. But it also had a positive effect in the renovation of public spaces, especially the central square of this area and the creation of the community centre where many different types of activities took place, such as help for unemployed people, job-seeking, cultural activities, etc.

As a conclusion we can say that there is a real need for a more integrated way of management of local level and multi-level governance. There is also a need for a long-term vision especially with regard to the social elements of urban development, which is quite new in these countries. Until now renewal and urban development were mainly considered from economic and physical aspects. Then there is the question of the integration of the private sector in a way that is strategic and also visible. The other point I would like to emphasise is the reinforcing of the stakeholders supporting the city – politicians, NGOs, experts, researchers - because this is a sphere that really can make things concrete when it comes to these questions.

LI Jun (Qs)

China is under huge pressure from the reconstruction and renewal of old cities and towns. So my first question is who will dominate the reconstruction, the government or the developers? Second, how do we address the issues of demolition and resettlement in the process of reconstruction and renewal? Third, our European participants just mentioned that the EU-China Development Fund would support such reconstruction in China and Europe, and I would like to know more about this. Thank you.

Krisztina Keresztely

To answer the first question: who is behind urban renewal? As I said there are many types of programmes, but in general the private sector has an important role. The private and local network public sector is cooperating in these cases.

I think that, on the professional side, it was not really a good project. But even on the professional side many people said that it was a necessity because it could help to attract private money and renewal of the area. As you saw it was one district, one area which is very well known and is a very problematic place in Budapest. The two different projects, the social project and the demolition project, were in the same area. And I think that also they are complementary - the social project balanced this really strong demolition and reconstruction project.

This part was almost entirely funded by private investors. Private investors bought the place and created public spaces, and the local government mainly solved problems I would say, such as the relocation of people. But when it comes to European funds there is a small part that the local government has to finance.

LI Lirong (Qs)

I have three questions for European participants from the perspective of an NGO practitioner. First, do European NGOs operate entirely on their own, or with support of the government with some resources and projects? Second, how do civilian organisations play a part in public services? Third, how do you deal with issues relating to the aging population?

Peter Ramsden

The question of how civil society operates in Europe is a huge question. It's like asking how the economy works in China. It's slightly too big a question. But what we can try to do is to illustrate with some of the presentation how civil society can be involved in service delivery and in urban issues, urban regeneration.

I want to talk a little now about how cities can learn from each other. So we see many examples of practice but how can one city look at what another city does and learn from it? So I am going to talk about the programme called URBACT, which stands for Urban Action. I want to draw a contrast between something like what Kristina presented, urban regeneration, and my Samsung mobile phone.

In 10 years my phone went from being just a phone to being a computer and this happened throughout the world, all of you have access to smart phones. But the equivalent did not happen in urban development. We do not really know how each city does its urban development. It is as if we do not really have the code. We can see the code in

the way that we have with computers. So with urban policy we have to make it known.

Urban Europe is not made up of mega-cities in the way that China is. We only have two large cities, Paris and London, and they are quite small by Chinese standards. So the map on the left shows that Europe is made of medium sized and small cities.

This is the URBACT webpage and you can see on the left it says 29 countries; 300 cities, 5000 active participants. I think it is probably more like 500 cities and 8000 participants now. What URBACT does is to organise cooperation and learning between cities. It is a programme supported by Europe with about 60 million euros (80 million dollars) and in six years we supported 50 networks, each network with 10 cities. And each network has a specific topic. The topics are very varied. Some would focus on the topic that Kristina was talking about, urban regeneration, urban renewal which, in most of Europe, is public sector driven, driven by public money. But other networks have looked at transport, at innovation, at the integration of migrants and many of the things we have targeted in this workshop. We hold an urban competition and cities bid to get into the programme. When they are selected they work for three years together on a policy topic, which can be any particular entry point. And the idea is that they learn from each other, they visit each other's cities and then they take this learning back and try to make it happen in their own city.

One of our current projects is focusing on sustainable food, how to make the food supply to a city more sustainable in order to avoid waste. This project is called "Roma-net". We have 11 million indigenous Roma people in Europe and we have a network working on Roman integration. It is an ethnic group that is very visible in Europe. And this one is called "My Generation". It is about youth and how youth can go from education into work. We have about 96 million youth in Europe so this is a huge challenge and most are in cities. This is a fictional city called "Allium" and we use this as a training city for our summer university. I was the mayor of this fictional city. We use dynamic training methods to help city officials and civil society and private sectors stay focused and learn about the new politic. We teach people to learn how to do it.

This is a map of Berlin where these red areas are 34 neighbourhoods which have problems with poverty. They have a very articulated, sophisticated approach to empowering civil society organisations and local communities in these 34 neighbourhoods using what they call a neighbourhood council, something like a street committee in China. In this neighbourhood they use five different types of funds and citizens decide which projects should be financed. The key thing is that local citizens are making decisions about the money that is spent. This is a different area but with a very large housing estate of about 30,000 people in the former communist part of East Berlin and they use the same approach.

Overall there are very positive results. They spent something like 230 million euros using this approach. It has very positive effects on the integration of migrants in these neighbourhoods. Although there are some issues they have stabilised neighbourhoods which were in a spiral of decline. And throughout URBACT networks other cities have copied what is done here.

In conclusion, firstly we see that small projects are often more effective than large projects. This challenges conventional wisdom. Most cities think they have to do things big, the bigger the better. But often very small thing are more effective. Secondly we see that NGOs and civil society play a key role in helping the city to innovate and co-produce the new city. We think that policy learning and this exchange approach can accelerate improvements in cities. But we also have to be very careful not just to copy and paste. Anything you see in one place has to be adapted to your own specific situation. We are also convinced that city administrations need to invest in innovation and the capacity to innovate. They need to remember that the mobile phone did not become so clever by itself - someone made efforts to innovate around the mobile phone and the same goes for urban policies.

Li Yunguan

Mr Ramsden, many thanks for sharing with us good cases in Europe. As you know, the Chinese people's awareness

of rights protection is awakening in urban renewal. In such a rapidly aging society it becomes a common issue for old neighbourhoods with low-rise buildings to install elevators. It is the need for the elderly who live on the sixth or seventh floors while those on the second or third floors will object. Urban renewal should not only respect the rights of residents but also enable them to happily accept the changes.

Peter Ramsden

It is a delicate matter. So the question becomes “how to build trust and how to find a way to produce a solution which is good for the mass of citizens, for society, while protecting the rights of individual?” and this is a very delicate matter. But we have seen good examples. For example, there has been a lot of work on energy efficiency in some of the former Baltic countries. The thing cannot be done unless 95% of people say yes, and many of these people will be elderly and they will be suspicious. Careful work has to be done to persuade people. An incentive structure has to be run.

CHEN Dingfang, General Manager of XooYo Book Store

Prospects of Collaborations between Government and Social Institutions – taking the development of City of Library in Guangzhou as an example

I have run a bookstore for 20 years and thought about the issue of bookstores as a bookseller. The Guangzhou municipal government put forward an ambitious plan to build Guangzhou a city library in June 2012. Such urban planning made citizens’ blood boil and almost all the media debated and discussed the big issue. I began to think seriously about approaches to public reading and made proposals to the district and municipal governments.

Two years ago, Shenzhen, a city very close to Guangzhou, was known as the City of the Library. It has 629 libraries, 620 of which are community-based. The southern coastal city was awarded the UNESCO title of “City of the Library” for this purpose and has taken a lead in this regard throughout China. Media coverage and data, however, show that the municipal government invested vainly in community libraries. These 620 community libraries reportedly run every week from Monday to Friday, close at 6 pm and mainly provide newspapers, magazines and a very small number of old books, which can meet only the basic needs of the elderly.

The public library system in Guangzhou is faced with a similar situation. I, based on my years of experience in running a bookstore, submitted two proposals to the municipal government from the perspective of “Small Government and Big Society” and making the best use of taxpayers’ money.

First, the government shall work with bookstores. As a matter of fact, the bookstore is functioned as a retail shop and a reading room. The government can build community libraries on these existing resources without renting houses, hiring librarians or purchasing many books. Instead the government is encouraged to provide rent subsidies and tax rebates to participating bookstores. It is a win-win strategy with government reducing investment and bookstores saving part of their operating costs. According to a survey, many citizens look forward to salons, lectures, and other cultural events apart from reading. It is almost an unachievable goal with the sole involvement of government, but it is as easy as pie for most bookstores and similar social institutions. For example, my bookstore organised over 60 cultural events in 2012 and is expected to have 80 activities this year. If the government gives a small amount in subsidies or incentives, bookstores shall help fulfil what is expected of public libraries.

Second, it is suggested that the government collaborate with civilian organisations and purchase services of managing community libraries from them.

WANG Yongjun, Head of the Department of Guangdong Industry-University-Research Collaboration Association

Urbanisation without the support of Industries Is Unsustainable

I am not a researcher of urbanisation but a web-based observer. I am more concerned with social and governance issues and provision of public services and will share with you my understandings of urbanisation.

When referring to urbanisation, we must touch upon people first and then social issues and public services. China's cities and towns usually attract and gather people through industries. For this reason the development of the Pearl River Delta differs from that of the Yangtze River Delta. Cities in the Yangtze River Delta, with time-honoured history, have better public services than those in the Pearl River Delta, which has witnessed rapid development over the past two decades with mushrooming factories and an influx of migrant workers. Lagging and poor public services have resulted in a series of nasty social problems. Public services are a basis for a stable and harmonious society but industries are a basic requirement for the provision of those services. If there is no backing from industries, public services cannot develop sustainably; and urbanisation without the support of industries will be doomed to unsustainability.

FAN Zhiming

I have a question for Ms CHEN of the *XooYo Book Store*. We established a library in *Dalang* for the young migrants, but we have difficulties in its use and maintenance. Data shows that the number of physical bookstores reduced quite a lot in Japan over the past decade. Are traditional bookstores necessary and will they disappear some day?

CHEN Dingfang

Thank you for reminding me. My address paid more attention to the government role in meeting the need of public reading and approaches it may take to make every penny of taxpayers' money count for this purpose. Fortunately we had a positive response from the government which will invest three million this year to enhance the development of community reading after our proposals. In addition, I do not think physical libraries or bookstores will completely disappear – they may decrease in terms of quantity but will definitely restructure and change.

Peter Ramsden

I think the bookstore is a very interesting example of what sort of public services we might imagine in the future. In Europe public libraries are under threat because they cost money but bookshops are closing much faster than libraries in general. The public library is also being re-invented in a digital world. It has been invented so that people can access digital content and not just printed books. I think it is an interesting example because it shows the tension between public and private models of delivery. I do not have an answer, I suspect in 10 years' time we will see very few books as in Europe bookshops are closing very fast. I suspect we will still see libraries but it will be difficult to hang on to their provision. For poor people the public library has always been a very important resource. I think we can find a mirror between the bookstore and other forms of public provision, such as social services, education, etc. The question for me is: what model of financing will we use? Will it be universal service? Will it be free at the point of access? Or will there be a fee? How will the money be raised in order to deliver the service? I think these are common questions across China and Europe and perhaps rather than focusing too much on the bookstore we should focus more the question: "How in the future can we pay for services so that we would retain some level of universal access?"

CHEN Dingfang

Last year we established a community bookstore. On the opening day, residents in the neighbourhood were almost speechless with excitement. There was a very pretty girl looking in through window. I invited her to come inside for reading but she was too shy. I took her in and gave her a picture book after noticing her still standing outside the window. Then I learnt that her mother worked as a cleaner and her father a motorcycle driver. There were no reading habits in her family. She stayed in the bookstore for an hour that day and then played outside again. She said she did not like reading. I was told by the bookstore staff that the girl gradually became a frequent visitor. On World Book Day in April this year the girl was very active at a story-telling event at the bookstore. This is

our first community-based bookstore. I believe its value is to meet the basic reading needs of the neighbourhoods, and it must have some impact on the little girl's life.

FAN Zhiming

The fact is that the girl did not bring any economic benefits to the bookstore. I will not deny social benefits but for a commercial store there is a big problem regarding economic benefits.

SUN Weili

First, I believe that printed books will never be completely replaced by e-books. Second, bookstores will sell books in communities and neighbourhoods. For example, community libraries can exchange 10 old books for a new book from the bookstore which will donate those used books to the needy.

CHEN Dingfang

All my footholds lay with approaches that the government may take to make every penny of taxpayers' money count for building the City of the Library.

Peter Ramsden

As to whether books will be replaced, we cannot predict but are in the middle of a knowledge digital revolution. But this is not a discussion about books. What is much more important is to think about this simply as an example of how do we finance. **Thus I have a very interesting comment from all of us: "The State should not be supporting charity." This is a very interesting comment because for me the literacy of the population is not a matter of charity.**

We should have as close as possible to 100% literacy among our population. This means we need to educate children, it means they need to have access to books and this is something we will have to pay for. We raise taxes to pay for this. This is about rights. Literacy is a right, it is not a matter of charity and we need to really fight for this idea that there is a common good for all of us that our children are educated and literate. I do not regard this as a charity.

Section 3: Social Organisations and Enterprises

LIU Xiaohong, Professor, Central China Normal University

The disproportion of migrant women and men might be an instable factor of cities

I would like to share the results of a survey we carried out. The main point is that women's integration in cities is the key to successful urbanisation. Only when women take their children can a family settle down and better integrate in cities. According to data from the Hubei Provincial Bureau of Statistics, the proportion of men and women moving out from rural areas as migrant workers was 59:41 in 2012. The number of migrant female workers in 2012 grew by 46,400, an increase of approximately 2.5% compared with that of 2011. A larger number of female migrants worked in towns and counties, accounting for 38.1% and 32.1% worked in the provincial capital city. More male migrants worked in the provincial capital city than in counties. We speculated that the reason more women worked in counties was to take care of their families. Female migrant workers mainly served in the catering, hairdressing, housekeeping, property management and sanitation sectors while male workers were in the processing, manufacturing and electronics industries.

Migrant women had a relatively higher level of education with 58.4% obtaining degree above high school while 8.9% received only primary school and lower education. The survey showed that the education background of the female migrant had an impact on their choice of work place. In terms of marital status, 68% of migrant women got married and 30.2% remained unmarried, while 46.3% of migrant men were unmarried. The disproportion of migrant women and men might be an unstable factor of cities. Just 4.3% of married migrant women had no

children and 22.9% had left their children in rural hometowns. The survey showed that migrant women with their children at their sides were more willing to become citizens.

Female migrant workers had less access to integration in cities

Second, we studied the integration of female migrants in cities. In Hubei province the average ratio of integration of migrant populations in cities was 56.19%, of which migrant women accounted for 51.84% and men for 60.39%. This meant that male migrants more easily adapted to urban lives. Female migrant workers held relatively stable jobs - 59.7% had not changed jobs over the past three years but they earned less than male migrant workers. In terms of social security, more male migrant workers enjoyed work-related injury insurance, unemployment insurance and urban housing provident funds than female migrants. In terms of access to public services, more migrant men had access to legal aid services and the prevention of occupational diseases.

In my opinion there are two main reasons why female migrants were less accessible to urban lives. The first reason is gender discrimination. As mentioned, migrant women were mainly employed in low-end industries and generally earned less than men. The second can be attributed to inadequate family policies. The traditional gender concept that men play a key role in society while women are confined to family chores has dominated Chinese society. As a result female members are much more associated with their families. In the process of modernisation and urbanisation we are concerned more about absorbing rural labour resources rather than resettlement of families in cities, resulting in inadequate rules and policies on family migration. I am expecting good advice, experience and practices from you. Thank you.

Peter Ramsden

I have a question on the statistics: To what extent are we seeing couples migrating to cities versus one of the couple being left in the countryside? How often would the migration of one of them, either the man or the woman, lead to the family being separated? I wonder if you know the answer to that question. Because there seem to be three possible scenarios: either there are things that people do to go to the city for which the couple is not separated, or one moves to the city and the other is left behind, sometimes the man, sometimes the woman. Or potentially both move but to different cities. I wonder if you had any comment on which is the most common situation.

LIU Xiaohong

If we look only at 2002 I can give you a quick answer: About two-thirds of rural women migrated into cities, with the remaining one third left behind in rural areas. The situation changed a lot in 2013, however, with many more women flooding into cities, leaving the elderly and children in their rural hometowns.

Peter Ramsden

What proportion of migrants in the urban areas has children living in the urban area with them?

LIU Xiaohong

About 68% of surveyed migrant women were married and 22.9% of them had left their children in rural areas.

JIA Wei, Coordinator General of ICS Creative Space, Sun Yat-sen University

My address is about social enterprise. I am working at the ICS Creative Space, a social enterprise evolving from a NGO. We started our business in 2003 by supporting the development of research-oriented grassroots organisations. Over the past nine years we have given support to an average of 6,000 people and 30 NGOs annually. The office of the ICS Creative Space has become the living room for NGOs in Guangzhou.

Basically speaking we take three approaches to back NGOs. First, we provide mobile and temporary office space

for those who start a business in the field of well-being and/or grassroots organisations. Second, we offer consultant services to NGOs, and sometimes loans and financial support to help them develop. Third, we have a communications team committed to the dissemination and promotion of those research-based organisations as well as their activities, and organising study tours and receptions among NGOs and scholars who are interested in philanthropy and well-being issues.

Peter Ramsden

This is very interesting. In September I visited in Seoul, South Korea, the new social innovation park which has been set up by the mayor. Perhaps it will be useful to have some connection with that organisation. I wonder how big an activity it is? How many NGOs are you supporting, what would be your best success in the last 10 years with an NGO that has grown and become a significant player?

JIA Wei

Let me share an example – the Lighthouse Program which started as a student association. At the very beginning they worked in the temporary office provided by the ICS Space. With other backing from us and government encouragement, the programme developed rapidly and officially registered at the local civil affairs bureau.

Our Space is faced with a transition. We are going to cooperate with different sectors and support innovative NGOs. I sincerely hope that NGOs would gain much more support from you in future.

WANG Bing, Managing Partner of JunZeJun Law Offices

My address is related to both public services and social organisations. Healthcare is a critical part of public service as well as an unbridgeable issue in urbanisation. I will talk about my thoughts on China's health care reform and related law issues.

Health care reform is aimed at addressing the perennial issues of expensive medical bills, difficult access to quality medical services and the disproportionate supply and demand of medical services. Difficult access to quality medical services cannot be entirely attributed to the uneven distribution and unreasonable structure of health care services. The root cause of expensive medical bills lies in the inadequate basic health care system.

China's health care reform, following a progressive path, has been carried out for 14 years and continues to go ahead. Over the past decade, the reform determined the non-commercial identity for the medical market, further clarified the principles of separation of public service institutions from government, management from supervision, prescribing from dispensing and for-profit from non-profit, and defined objectives towards the common development of private-invested medical institutions and public hospitals. The progressive reform has resulted in a multi-level and diversified health care system with the public hospitals acting as the main service provider.

Health care supply cannot live without money. For China, a country with a population of more than 1.3 billion, financial resources allocated to the medical care system are quite limited so private capital has been encouraged to invest in this sector in recent years, including the establishment of new medical institutions and participation in the reform of public hospitals.

It is smart to allow and encourage social capital to invest in the medical care system. In practice, however, private capital investing in hospitals remains stagnant owing to legal challenges. First, the property rights of most private non-profit organisations have not yet been legally protected, which means that private non-profit medical institutions do not own their property rights. Second, the corporate legal system has flaws. Currently a great number of public hospitals, especially state-owned ones, are required to change development modes, vitalise medical assets and introduce social capital. The fact is, however, that existing laws have not covered the issue of diversified property rights. Third, the protection of immovable property assets of for-profit medical institutions is inadequate.

Peter Ramsden

Your presentation mostly covered the question of a strong divide between the private and the public sector. But I have a different question. I was curious, in Guangzhou for example, who had access to health services? And who does not have access to these services?

WANG Bing

As I understand it, you are concerned about who are the major clients of non-profit medical institutions. Am I right?

Peter Ramsden

Do migrant workers have access to health services?

WANG Bing

China's health insurance system has an urban-rural dual structure: a medical insurance scheme for urban employees by which migrant workers are covered, and the rural cooperative medical scheme for rural residents.

Question

If a private non-profit organisation would like to be involved in the development of pension real estate, what do you think are the legal obstacles at present?

WANG Bing

At present Chinese laws only deny the property rights of non-profit organisations but admit corporate property rights. Therefore there are no legal obstacles for these organisations' engagement in the development of pension real estate.

Peter Ramsden

I have tried to establish things which we can take forward as possible areas of future collaborative points between the Chinese and the European sides. We can use a common numbering so that in either language we are always talking about the same thing.

No. 1 is quite a big one: How to provide and pay for public services? Within that there will be some questions such as "what is a public service", etc. Talking particularly about cities something else to be aware of is that across the world cities have very different competencies so what is a public service for a city in one city may not be in another. But the question is very important and very broad.

No. 2 is how to integrate migrants in practice and their families in the city. And again I am aware that this has particular meanings in the Chinese context and in the European context but there are important similarities which we can both learn from.

No. 3 is how to encourage citizen participation in urban regeneration? Here we addressed the question, for example, of what happens if you are moving people out of an area? We have seen examples of areas being redeveloped, but it can also mean how can you relate to people in an area where you are doing a softer form of regeneration - where the people are staying and you want to make changes? How do we engage and build trust and have a meaningful and productive dialogue. There are many techniques of doing this.

No. 4 relates to the later presentation of the Sun Yatsen university: how to support social enterprise and NGOs, specifically with finance, incubation and legal matters - three aspects which may be particularly relevant, but you may have other issues.

Each of these has an aspect of what I would call social innovation. At least we can look for new solutions in each area.

Question

I have three questions. First, how do you define social enterprises in Europe? Second, could you please share good practices of nurturing and supporting social enterprises in Europe? Third, what are the prospects for cooperation between Chinese and European social enterprises?

Peter Ramsden

Defining social enterprise is quite difficult because each country has its own version of the definition. A simple definition could be: It is a company which trades in the market for social purposes. But you can find that if you put four different social enterprise people together in a room they will disagree about the definition. One of the areas of disagreement involves what should exist at a level of diplomatic bond, participation of the employees in a more cooperative model. I will keep by the definition. It has social ends and it trades in the market, but I would add that many social enterprises rely to some degree on a public financing circuit.

Moving to the second part of your question which I think is very important, examples of support. The first reply to that is that there is no single aspect, you need to think of it more like an enterprise ecosystem. If you look at what other enterprises need, we know that they need finance, markets, and a legal basis. Then if they are already trading they are going to need practices, and they may at some point also need advice and support.

So we need to think about all of those things, but in a way until the legal questions are resolved in China there will be some difficulties particularly around access to the markets. This is a crucial question. In any case we need to think in the broad sense of support, and yes there are examples in different EU member states each of which has its own tradition. Italy has a very strong system for social cooperatives, France has many good examples, and I would say also the UK and some of the Nordic countries such as Sweden. We could find possible collaborations for you. We could find the right people that you could have an engagement with.

JIA Wei

As a response to your third question, the experience in the ICS Creative Space tells me that grassroots research institutions care more about cooperation and communications than the provision of office space or other hardware facilities.

ZHANG Renbiao

Previous discussions involved several different concepts as well as their different legal status, such as social organisations, public organisations, non-profit institutions and social enterprises. I think we have to figure out this premise otherwise our discussion cannot proceed because of quite different understandings of these concepts. In addition, social enterprise is a relatively new concept which arose in China fewer than 10 years ago, and debate in this regard is of high significance.

Peter Ramsden

Would it be helpful to widen the fourth one to include questions, for example, about how to define not just NGOs and social enterprises but also the role of civil society more generally? It is clear every country has a different perception of what it means. I am not sure that now is the time to search for the definition because we are trying to set an agenda for the future.

Krisztina Keresztely

Maybe it is too early to speak about the existence and form of working of social enterprises. But concerning NGOs I think it could also be interesting to see their actions and maybe to speak about their relationships, their

objectives, and the level of their independence - so maybe not try to explain exactly what an NGO is but to see what the fields of activity are of all of these societies.

Peter Ramsden

My idea is that we should look at these three areas (numbers 1, 2 and 3), through this area (No. 4).

For example, how to provide and pay for public services? But we could decide to look at it through “how can civil society contribute to providing public services”. In this case how could social enterprises, NGOs, civil society work on integrating migrants, and in this case how do we work through civil society organisations, social enterprise NGOs, to address citizen participation in urban regeneration? It is a suggestion, so like any suggestion it can be rejected or embraced.

ZHANG Renbiao

It comes down to the differences among charities, commonwealth organisations and social enterprises. Social enterprises are a type of corporation and differ from those wellbeing organisations.

SUN Weili

I am working at a NGO. I believe that the definition of NGO is not the most important issue but how we shall act is much more vital.

ZHANG Renbiao

The question is that the legal status of different entities is not at all the same thing.

JIA Wei

Some people hold views that social enterprises shall not share profits. In my opinion as long as an enterprise exerts social effects it could be regarded as a social enterprise but it should be aware that an enterprise in nature has to maximise its benefits.

JIN Dejun

I have two more questions. First, how do we support the development of social organisations, including social enterprises? Second, how do these organisations make more and better contributions to social construction?

WANG Bing

Within the Chinese legal framework, social enterprise is not a legal concept. Social enterprises might retain part of corporate business functions and be committed to non-profit causes.

Peter Ramsden

On the question of regulation, until very recently no country had specific law for such an enterprise and yet they existed. So we can do social enterprise under all sorts of systems. What the discussion reveals is that there is an interest in exchanging and learning about each other's way of working in this field. That is all we have to learn.

Krisztina Keresztely

I think that we need to keep searching for solutions, but we need first to discuss existing things and practices, such as the question of immigration. I think that from a European point of view it is very interesting that in China there is interior immigration and that in Europe immigration coming to cities is partly international. On the other hand we have a problem of minorities such as Roma immigration which is completely different because it concerns an originally nomadic population. From the European point of view it would be interesting to have a dialogue on the question of internal immigration and international immigration and minorities. China can have very important experiences.

SUN Weili

I will try to answer your question. China is currently at the stage of urban sprawl, with the increasing migration of a large number of farmers who give up farming imposing a great burden on cities. The government is striving to make migrant workers feel at home.

Peter Ramsden

We are not looking for solutions now, we are looking to set an agenda for future programmes.

Question

I want to talk about two points. First, dialogue between China and Europe should be on an equal basis. China could learn from the experiences of European cities over the past decades while Europe might draw lessons from China's rapid urbanisation – its innovations, approaches to addressing difficulties the Europeans are faced with. China's urbanisation has its own features and practices, and we would welcome your researches and suggestions on it. Second, the influx of migrant workers into cities has promoted urban development and they are a new force instead of a burden for urban development. The intractable problem of their integration into cities has to do with our development philosophies and policies.

SUN Weili

I participated in the China-Europa Forum several times and know a little about their way of organisation. I believe that the Chinese and Europeans should take more time to exchange and communicate. We spent a lot of energy and funds organising EU-China dialogues. Every time the Chinese and European participants expressed ideas and exchanged views with varying degrees, but it seemed very difficult to converge wisdoms.

JIA Wei

My organisation is particularly interested in the integration of migrant workers into cities as well as provision of services to this group. We visited a place in the Pearl River Delta where migrant workers congregate and found that we, not only NGOs but also the government as well as all walks of life, have very limited resources to help with their integration into cities. What shall we do? If we discuss things from this point of view, it would be more effective.

Peter Ramsden

It seems to be that we have a clear consensus that No. 4 is interesting. We have a clear view that No. 2 is interesting. I have not heard so much about numbers 1 and 3. If we put this on the agenda for Beijing then it becomes something the EU and Chinese government could work together on.

Workshop 3: Ecological Environment and Sustainable Cities

(Due to recording problems during the meeting some parts of speeches and discussions do not appear below. We apologise to our participants.)

Session 1: Cities and Management of Scarce Resources

Alex Minshull, Sustainable City Manager, Bristol City Council, UK

Bristol is on the west coast of the UK and has an urban area of about 650,000 people. Bristol received the Green Capital award 2015. This award is aimed at finding European cities with good practices and sharing these with other European cities and cities around the world.

What has Bristol achieved to become Green Capital? In the last five or 10 years, we had very rapid progress in a number of fields...

In the future we intend to continue our strong growth in the technology sector... We are planning some quite strong investments for a school and structure to reduce the amount of carbon that we produce, and not only energy production but also energy efficiency investments.

So what about energy efficiency? We are one of the most energy and waste efficient cities in the United Kingdom. We have tried to make changes at the city scale, but also in the building and demonstration of pilot projects, new technologies and in implementing energy re-use as well.

Our second success is a healthy and accessible city, and we have really created systems for housing, as well as cycling and walking zones. One of the major areas is cycling and to increase the level of cycling. This was very successful in the last few years and we intend to double the number of cycling paths in a few years as well with a whole range of different campaigns and infrastructure.

Urban infrastructure, communication and education are very important. We had quite an intensive programme and investment in cycling facilities throughout the city but not all involved cycle lanes because we did not have the space - also in reducing speeds providing more parking facilities, so that wherever you go you can find space.

Communication with citizens is important too because we have to sell the idea of cycling, and we sell this idea of cycling by offering benefits for health mainly, for convenience, to make it easier to travel around and then saving money, good for the environment or because some people may be too poor to have a car. One final remark: Most communication is not by the local government but by NGOs which talk about cycling and benefits to citizens.

What Bristol is doing about sustainability? Let's start with some background on the food system in the UK. We import most of our products. We import all of our fruit and we have imported much of our food for about 200 years, but the population in agriculture production has increased over the last years. We have a global food supply system and within the UK 85% of the food is supplied by four supermarket chains. As a city council we have no powers to manage the food system, but we try to influence it in different ways. The first way is to understand the system and to share this with people, the second is to find ways of accessing local supplier markets and to have more direct contact with their local suppliers.

I would like also to sum up some principles that might explain the waste management system in Europe. The first principle is to separate waste so that toxic and dangerous waste is separate. The second principle is to use the waste hierarchy. First we try to reduce waste, then to re-use it, then to recycle it and then to recover energy and then finally dispose of it. The third principle is the producers' responsibility, both the manufacturer of the bottle and also the wholesaler, so that you have to put the bottle in the right bin and it will be collected rather than throwing it away in mixed garbage.

The total amount of waste we collected has risen by 27% in 10 years. We added an MBT (Mechanical Biological Treatment) process and classification. Collecting waste in a very segregated fashion is helping reducing the amount of waste we produce. In the UK a few years ago, waste was rising every year by 3% and we got to stop that and turn it around. I think if we meet again in two or three weeks' time your waste will have gone up. I think it is a big challenge.

José Ignacio Arriba, Head of Municipal Energy Agency, VITORIA-GASTEIZ City, Spain

A city on the road to sustainable development

Vitoria Gasteiz is a medium-sized city with a quarter of a million inhabitants. It is situated in the Basque country

which has two million inhabitants in total. This is a municipality with a total area of 277 square kilometres. The municipality consists of three different concentric circles: the first is the urbanised city, the second is the rural and agricultural area, and the third is mountains and forests.

Some 97% of the population lives in the city and the rest live in 63 small villages with farms. One third of the municipality is forested areas and 91% is publically owned. For us 'green' is also an infrastructure. In the urbanised city we have 45 square metres of green per inhabitants, and this urbanised area is surrounded by a green belt which is an infrastructure that connects all the large sections. So, 100% of the population lives less than 300 hundred metres from a green area.

The city centre is a facility in each of the neighbourhoods of 15,000 people, which includes sport facilities, social facilities and libraries. The inhabitants of each neighbourhood can easily walk to these sites. At the same time our citizens are very committed. We have some instruments and experience in the participation of the citizens: i.e. the environmental sector council, which is a consultative body involving more than 40 citizen groups.

Every year we work with the schools of the city and last year 27,000 students and 2000 teachers from 31 schools participated in environmental programmes. Citizen involvement is quite important for getting results: for example, in 2005 the consumption of water in litres/inhabitant/day was 121 and is now 110.

This story of 20 years is one of important political agreements, technical promotion and citizen participation and led to the award of Green Capital in 2012. But the award is not a full stop. We continue to share information with European cities and in recent years major delegations from Latin America, China and Europe have visited our city.

Social cohesion means involving all inhabitants at cultural and economic levels. This means they can meet each other and talk and translate the problems they have among themselves. In my city, whether you are richer or poorer, you more or less know the problems other citizens have. Even if you live or do not live in one of the neighbourhoods, you know what is happening in a particular neighbourhood and what its needs are. That means leaders can easily explain the requirements of every neighbourhood in the whole city.

For Vitoria's future, we want first to keep our objectives with the new environment and a focus on renewing energy. We have worked in recent years on a sustainable mobility and space plan. We share space among the different means of mobility: walking, cycling, public transport. In addition, the use of the car is declining. Energy consumption in the city is 52% in buildings, residential and service. The rest is only transport and agriculture, and all the consumption for example in the municipality waste management and water management. The goals: We must reduce 82% of energy in the transport sector. The plan targeted a 25% reduction in greenhouse effect gas emissions in Vitoria-Gasteiz by 2020.

HONG Zhenbin, Member of China International Urbanization Development Strategy Research Committee, Assistant to the Director of Environmental Engineering Research Centre of Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development

Economic transition of the Fanshan (Alum Hill) Town has a long way to go

My hometown of Fanshan, known as the "alum capital of the world", is located in the mountainous areas of Cangnan County in Zhejiang Province. It covers an area of 119 square kilometres and has a population of 63,000. Its alum mining-smelting history can be traced back to the Song Dynasty, which is why the city is named after the alum. Its current proven alumite reserves account for about 80% of China's and 60% of the world's reserves.

Its 640 years of alum smelting history has left behind numerous cultural and historical landscapes in the town, including more than 100 mining sites divided in five categories. Here alum miners still adopt the semi-mechanical and semi-physical system for production and refining. It is the only industrial "living heritage" sites qualified as one

of the “cultural heritages” that is still active in Zhejiang Province. At present we are building a national mining park, and trying to make it one of the national green mines in China. Fanshan Town and its mining enterprises are closely related and mutually dependent, but since the 1980s, with the decline of these mining enterprises, the town has been confronted with a host of development problems. These are the challenges that we are facing:

First, enterprises here don’t move fast enough to upgrade and restructure their activities. Take for example Wenzhou alum mining which is not only one of the pillar companies in the town, but also a national key chemical mining site in China. Confronted with an array of problems linked to the institutional mechanism, production technology, market and ecological issues, the factory has been suffering from a number of obstacles such as a shortage of market demand, aging employees, high pollution, high-energy consumption, low income, heavy losses in successive years and geological environmental problems. Now we are living a period of profound reform and economic transition.

Second, it’s a tremendous task to achieve economic transition in this urban area. As an old mining site, Fanshan Town’s development cannot rely on the support of traditional agriculture. With its undeveloped primary industry, Fanshan Town, as a less developed area itself, also has great difficulty in attracting talent and capital investment. The secondary sector of industry also has development difficulties coupled with the recession of the former pillar industries. The local economy declines. The majority of residents have very limited opportunities to boost their incomes, especially in the context of an employment and re-employment deadlock. It is therefore becoming harder to promote a local economy transition, to achieve urban-rural integration as well as to increase revenues of the local people.

Third, tourism development has a long way to go. In 2011 the local administration ordered an *“Overall planning of tourism development in Fanshan Town”*. This puts forward a transition plan which converts the mining-centred economy to an ecological tourism-oriented model. With its millennium culture and natural beauty, the local government intends to play the tourism card in order to replace the low efficiency and highly polluting alumina refining industry.

José Ignacio Arriba, Head of Municipal Energy Agency, VITORIA-GASTEIZ City, Spain

In our city, as in other cities in Spain, waste cannot be collected by the city council but is to be treated by companies approved by the government. Hospital waste, for example, does not enter this cycle. So we have to dispose of it where we bought it: i.e. medicines have to be disposed of in pharmacies and we have to dispose of batteries in the shops that sold them.

Second, we collect two kinds of waste - waste from the building sector and waste from the houses which, for example, can be mixed with paper and a lot of other things. Ten years ago we used to dispose of both of these wastes mixed in the landfill owned by the municipality. Now the city council forbids the disposal of any waste into the landfill that was not previously treated.

We have two treatment plants - one to treat waste from the building sector (stones, concrete, etc.). We treat it and make small cubes that can be used again in construction, so do not dispose of this material in the landfill. We re-use it. The same applies for the second type of home waste which can be collected in different containers - for instance, one container for paper, another for plastic, etc. We call that collecting separately, so if the paper is good it goes directly to a paper factory to be turned into paper again. So with paper we make new paper, with plastic new plastic and with organic waste we make two things - biogas that can then produce electricity and organic compost that we use to fertilise the land. The products that cannot be burned we compress into small blokes and transport to the landfill. The costs of this, not including recycling but only the cost of collection per year, accounts for 8% to 10% of the whole budget of the municipality.

Gérard Magnin, Secretary General Energycities

I would like to add a visual example of a city where I live in France. Using techniques from the 1970s we built new developments and also distributive heating just beside incineration facilities for producing heat – this was the 1970s. At the beginning of the 1990s we developed the separation of waste at home according to the rules and regulation my colleague explained before. For two years now, the municipality has decided to develop a new system: the price for waste collection is linked with the right to waste - if you have less waste to be collected you will pay less. A practical consequence of this is the development of composting at the bottom of buildings. My wife and I are responsible for composting in our building. In two years we have reduced the weight of waste by 18% and saved money. The municipality has appointed an NGO to help to implement composting because we need to change behaviour and we absolutely need to help people. It is usually better to do this through an NGO rather than the administration, because NGO members are very motivated people - they want to succeed and are very enthusiastic. Then it becomes easier to achieve the goal of the local authority.

FU Lu, China Director of Clean Air Asia

This forum is about EU-China dialogue, which can be debated at two levels. From a macro perspective, it is urban environment protection that concerns the policymakers. From a micro perspective, when we try to put our ideas into practice, we are confronted with a lot of problems. So what should we do? Chinese and European cities have a lot of disparities especially in terms of numbers of inhabitants, politics, economy and culture. How should we concretely draw on the practical experiences of Europe rather than just talking about it? If the European experiences cannot be adapted to China, then its influence will be less important than we have imagined. May I ask participants here how to deal with this phenomenon and better promote cooperation between Chinese and European cities?

José Ignacio Arriba, Head of Municipal Energy Agency, VITORIA-GASTEIZ City, Spain

This is a difficult question and will take quite a long time to explain, firstly because it is the second day in China for me and it is difficult to understand. We are lost in the magnitude of China, by which I mean 80% of cities in Europe have around 200,000 inhabitants. When we see the expansion of cities, that is quite an important element. It is a long process. We have a history of 20 years of political agreements, technical promotion and citizen participation that has led us to really protect the environment and regard it as an infrastructure as important as a highway. This is very important - if there is no citizen participation you will not make it, if there is no technical promotion you will not make it, if there are no political agreements and commitment you will not make it. So it is not an easy process. In Europe it took us 20 years to understand that we have to preserve the environment. Twenty years ago we were thinking about the economy, factories and manufacturing. Through these 20 years there have been many laws that one after the other have protected the environment. The waste collection system, for example: We started collecting all waste in the same containers then introduced one container for paper, five years later a second one for plastic. It was little by little. First we recycled paper and then tried to engage the citizens to do it - we have their participation through them putting paper in that container instead of in the normal one.

FU Lu, China Director of Clean Air Asia

I have worked at the United Nations and at a Chinese consulting company, and now I'm working at Clear Air Asia. All these experiences have given me the impression that we have learnt a lot from the West. These experiences guided China towards a positive development trend. The results, however, were not as satisfying as we expected. How should we take the next step? I think this should be conducted at two levels.

The first is as the European guest has just answered. He arrived in China yesterday and has already observed a lot of differences. He cannot answer the question. His response, however, was exactly what I expected. He shared with us a process on what they did exactly and why they did it. He told us what their successes and setbacks were. These experiences are quite important.

Second, we should be aware of the problems China is confronting. As the gentleman mentioned about waste treatment, we should draw on the experiences of European and American countries. But what kinds of methods and technics should be adopted?

Therefore policymakers should first have opportunities to hear all of the voices. Second, only if more and more stakeholders work together can we achieve our goal.

Li Aixia, Deputy President of the China Association of Tactic Traffic Guangdong Branch

Bristol in England and Victoria in Spain have both obtained the European Green Capital Award, even if they are not capitals but mid-sized cities. How is it possible for them to take part in that award selection?

José Ignacio Arriba, Head of Municipal Energy Agency, VITORIA-GASTEIZ City, Spain

The Green Capital award is an award and every city can apply for it. You have to demonstrate all you have done and your future goals in eight fields, and they have different points for these fields. So to be Green Capital you have to demonstrate best practices and plans in the following: the first is CO2 emission reduction and energy consumption reduction; the second water management and water consumption reduction; third is land use - protecting agriculture land and forests; fourth, demonstrate that you are improving your air quality; fifth, have a consistent level of governance in green issues; sixth, have a minimum involvement of your citizens in green policies and programmes; seventh, demonstrate that your future goals can be achieved. Experts, technicians and scientists, not people from the Commission, assess all these aspects and give points in each of the fields. Each year around 20 cities apply for the award and compete in these fields and one is selected as the Green Capital.

Why do cities apply for the Olympic Games? It is more or less the same. You want to be recognised in the world, but at the same time the citizens are really proud of belonging to that city.

Our city has 250,000 residents, so we cannot apply for the Olympic games but we can apply for different awards. It does not matter, our citizens are proud of every award they can get because it is not an award for the politicians, it is not an award for the technicians, it is an award for the citizens.

Alex Minshull, Sustainable City Manager, Bristol City Council, UK

In Europe there are a number of awards - for example, the awards for the Capital of Culture. It is just a way of highlighting a city and is not just open to capital cities. My city, Bristol, has three reasons for applying; one is because we want to share what we have done - both the successes and the mistakes that we have made - so that we can all become more sustainable. The second reason is an economic one. Bristol is very active with investments and having a great quality of life. Third, we want to use it to start the next wave of the environmental city. We say that 2015 is the start of a new chapter, not the end of this one.

Maurizio Mariani, President of the Consortium Risteco, CEO of Sotral Spa, Italy

I would like to say that we need to establish a win-win relationship between Europe and China. You can learn

something from our mistakes because we made so many. But from my point of view, and since I have been working with The China-Europa forum since 2006 to establish relations and try to manage workshops and social events, it is really the link between research at the European and Chinese levels and the policy makers. Otherwise, such as for many years in Europe for example, we should be more ecological. If you look at this plastic bottle or this bottle made of glass, many people would say that the glass bottle is more ecological than the plastic one. It is not true. It has been demonstrated that a plastic bottle is much more ecological than a glass one. So we need to establish and to use the life-cycle thinking approach, and really calculate in the right way the externality of human habits and the human. The difference between the plastic bottle and the glass one is that if we use plastic bottles coming from a producer situated around 300 km from the end user (which is the average in Europe), the travelling cost is what has the biggest impact on the environment. It is not only the raw materials, glass or plastic, that have an impact on consumption.

CAI Yihong, Secretary General of CIUDSRC

Our committee on urbanisation is currently preparing “the China urbanisation quality evaluation system”. We have been engaged in this programme for three years. In the process of creating this system, we wanted in the beginning to apply a lot of indices but there now remain only 10. I am quite interested in the index applied in your region. I think our committee could cooperate with you to carry on our project about the China urbanisation quality evaluation system.

TAN Xuewen, Associate Research Fellow of Rural Development of the Institute Chinese Academy of Social Science, Secretary-General of the Chinese Association of Foreign Agricultural Economics Forums

My question is addressed to Mr Hong Zhenbin. Today we are taking part in a forum about EU-China dialogue. To now two European cities have caught our attention. The only case of urbanisation in China was presented by Mr Hong and it is not a successful one. After listening to all these experiences, how do you think Fanshan Town could learn from them and what are the alternatives for your hometown’s development?

HONG Zhenbin, Member of the China International Urbanisation Development Strategy Research Committee, Assistant to the Director of Environmental Engineering Research Centre of the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development

Fanshan Town is a highly polluted chemical mine which is being gradually abandoned. But then what about the citizens and people living here? IT has natural beauty with wonderful climate and geographical conditions. The pollution of the mine, however, has destroyed the environment. This turned out to be a great blow for all the traditional sectors in Fanshan Town. An economic transition seems necessary. We have to convert a second sector-oriented economy to a model based on third-sector industry, but the transformation is not so easy.

Thanks to the good environmental conditions here, we intend to develop the tourism industry. First, we have the biggest golden beach in Asia but it is still not exploited. Then, a crater dating back a hundred million years is the summit of the south area of the Zhejiang Province. The environment is really beautiful. How do we take advantage of our environment to promote an economic transition? I would like to ask the experts to share with us your precious advice.

WANG Bingchen, Deputy Director of the China International Urbanisation Development Strategy Research Committee, Senior Counsellor of the State Council, Famous hydro geologist

How we draw on European experiences and adapt them to China's situation are the key points as well as the difficulties of EU-China cooperation.

The European Union countries have indeed a lot of advanced experiences. The question, however, is how to apply these to China? It is the main point of the Sino-European cooperation. It is crucial to know how to combine the two aspects. This is what we have to deal with through our forum.

Take for example the control of waste pollution in China. It is important to choose the right place for a landfill, but this often creates serious secondary pollution. This means that waste seeps into the soil and causes pollution. It's a big problem which can re-emerge after decades. How do EU countries treat those issues? I hope to know the concrete details instead of some simple examples.

Alex Minshull, Sustainable City Manager, Bristol City Council, UK

When you spoke about the differences in context between the European Union and China, that is very true; but we also have one thing in common which is that we are all public servants, and we all serve people, and we also do that to protect the environment. And so I think there are two or three things that we should do. Let's start with urging our governments to make a global agreement on climate change in Paris in 2015.

But let's also work together between towns and between cities and between mayors and between European people and Chinese people. The European Green Capital is a way of focusing attention on sustainable cities and could be used in a Chinese adaptation. We have talked about citizens in most of the session in protecting the environment because that is very important. So let's find a way of helping citizens to communicate with each other, and between the EU and China through NGOs so that they can tell us the services they want in their cities.

Session Two: Urban Air, Water and Waste Pollution Challenges and Opportunities

Gerard Magnin, Secretary General Energycities

I focused my presentation on the opportunities regarding challenges in air, water and waste and in order to have a more holistic approach or view of the city. Just a word to describe the point of view I speak from. I am the executive director of Energycities which is an urban association of cities and towns in energy transition, born nearly 25 years ago. We are also organising The Covenant of Mayors which is a very important movement in Europe with 5000 municipalities voluntarily committed to reach the European Union Energy and Climate objectives. We have developed a concept called "the low energy city with high quality of life for all". Basically this means that it is possible to use less energy while improving quality of life and also in doing so with justice and equity.

In order to work, any city needs water, energy and materials as inputs and it has to use as little as possible of water, energy and materials. There are some outputs that are not really desirable such as waste emission, and we also need to waste less in order to decrease the volume of this output. In the meantime the objective of the municipalities, of the mayors and of the council is to improve quality of life, to offer security and to create jobs. So the question is: How do we increase the desirable outputs while minimising the inputs?

For this reason we have published a book of 30 proposals for cities and towns, with five main topics. One of these is "Knowing our territory's resources and flows". I would like to focus on just one topic which is "How to know our energy resources and boost our economy". Basically the idea is to transform a waste which is not desirable into

something that can be used in the local economy and provide services and products for the population.

In fact, in order to take into consideration the flow of materials and products, the first thing is a linear economy: we use resources, we process these to make products, and then at the end there are wastes and we continue to use resources, and we continue to waste and so on. That is a totally unsustainable way of working. It is more or less what we have done since the first industrial revolution in the 19th century. At that time only a quarter of the world's population was able to have urban development, but now all the countries on the planet intend to develop and this way is totally unsustainable. It is impossible to continue like this. The alternative is a circular economy, not only at country scale, but also on the scale of a city or a province. This could involve biological materials, technical materials or both. The aim is to use resources and then to use the waste to create new resources and so on, while developing the local economy. Waste should no longer be considered as something we need to put away but also as a resource we can re-use to do something else. It is the only sustainable way if we want to be able to continue to live together on the planet.

An example: A small-medium city in Sweden decided 15 years ago to be 100% reliant on renewable energy for heating and electricity. After 15 years renewable energies supply 84% of the heating needs for the city and 57% of the needs in electricity. And they reduced their CO₂ emissions by 35%.

This objective of being 100% renewable is also the objective of Denmark by 2050. Denmark has around five million inhabitants, which represents a normal city in China. The idea is quite the same - it is how to use energy from waste, biomass, agriculture etc., which can be the equivalent of biogas, and to then set a model for the use of energy, to keep this model at home, in the city, in the province, in order to boost local development.

Very often these resources are hidden and we have to make an effort to understand what kinds of resources we have. For instance, we did not take care of this, we just consumed, plugged it in and it worked, but now we have to change our way of consuming. For this we need to discover the resources we have around us.

In the city of Geneva, for example, they have investigated all of their resources and are also trying to be free from the use of fossil fuels by the year 2050. Air conditioning is forbidden and they use the nearby lake as a source of energy to refresh and also to heat. They have been using the lake as a source of energy.

These examples illustrate the trend that is going on in Europe in order to make a transition toward renewable energy.

Catherine Savart, Groupe VEOLIA ENVIRONNEMENT, France

Innovative urban services for cities

My company - Veolia - has a long history of serving the needs of local authorities. For the past 106 years we have been creating new environmental services and offering solutions tailored to each situation in three complementary business areas: water management, waste management and energy management.

We have experience in designing, building and managing urban infrastructure and services for thousands of cities around the world. We are supplying drinking water, cleaning waste water, managing the production and distribution of heat and energy, and turning waste into resources. Throughout our history, cities have had to evolve and adapt to accommodate a growing population, to meet the needs and expectations of citizens, to lend structures to community life and to ensure their own growth and appeal. The simultaneity of major changes and new departures are driven by population growth and urban expansion, different lifestyles, resource scarcity, economic and social tensions, and environmental dangers which have limited impact on the cities.

Environmental issues must be considered in relation to keeping living conditions and profitable long-term growth.

I would like to give you a view of the city of Vancouver in Canada where you can find their programme of 'Greenest City 2020'. I quote: "Becoming a greener city is more than an environmental objective; it is also a savvy economic strategy, for it will offer a competitive advantage in attracting highly mobile investments, businesses, entrepreneurs and talented workers".

We have to re-think the way cities work, the design and management of urban infrastructure and services are key building blocks for sustainable cities. A majority of today's cities are greedy; they use a lot of resources and make insufficient effort to manage the pollution they produce. On this theme, we can see how transitioning from excessive resource consumption towards a circular economy can work. We want to organise and optimise the different flows of water, energy and waste or resources into local loops through a more restrained efficient metabolism that has less impact on the environment.

We can have a look at this kind of solution. It was by optimising the performance of efficiencies facilities; by creating smart grids with communication technology to monitor main adjustments in real time; by boosting recycling, re-use and recovery processes for materials and avoid wasting energy and water, and by leveraging synergies between different networks. But we have to remind ourselves that these solutions must also go hand in hand with underlying efforts to change the behaviour of end users.

In areas in which water is increasingly scarce, municipalities are aware of the need to secure supplies and use water in a more sustainable manner especially in regions subjected to water-stress. Against this factor, starting to treat waste water offers a very attractive alternative to helping preserve water resources. We design, build and operate a very wide range of processes to recycle waste water and for treatment, including submerged membrane bioreactors and membrane technologies. Using these innovative techniques in line with local requirements can produce water that offers a level of quality adapted to irrigation, manufacturing and household needs.

As far as alternative energy is concerned, we have to focus on a few points. First, waste energy solutions: By improving the energy performance of landfills for example. Modern non-hazardous waste storage facilities drawing on state of the art technology to protect the environment exist today. They provide a source of renewable energy by recovering the biogas resulting from the decomposition of waste to boost the energy performance of cities. A second example for improving the energy performance of cities is by optimising the energy performance of incinerators. Municipal waste incineration plants can generate electricity and supply district heating networks. They provide a source of energy that is still under-used today.

Energy storage and heating networks are the key to integrating renewable energy into city power grids. That allows coping with e-consumption without resorting to fossil fuels, and this requires the ability to store any surplus accumulated during periods of low demand.

Li Bin, Chairman of Guangdong Troth Water Equipment Limited (sewage disposal)

We are contractors mainly engaged in municipal water and wastewater treatment renovation. Over the past 20 years we have undertaken 50% of municipal drinking water renovation projects in China. Meanwhile we also play a big role in promoting exchanges between local and foreign governments as well as their universities. Compared with many similar indicators of the European Union, tap-water quality standards in China are much lower. In addition, the quality of raw water in China is a bit poorer itself.

We differ quite a lot when it comes to the standards and techniques of waste water treatment. In China we are now dedicated to raising the waste water discharge standard. While most water factories apply a second-grade standard, a lot try to reach the first A-grade standard. In Europe the standards are much more specified. I will give you an example. For example, these are the requirements of the EU regarding quantity: 15 PPM for a city of 100,000 inhabitants and 10 PPM for a city of 1,000,000 inhabitants. In this way we can regulate the effluent. In terms of technology, in Europe a lot of sewage and sludge can be recycled and treated at the same time. Currently

China, however, has a very low recycling rate of sewage and most of the waste water treatment plants haven't handled their sludge very well.

We have to ponder on this point. It is indeed a chance for Sino-European cooperation and innovation. In the process of urbanisation we still haven't put emphasis on safety in terms of water supply, but Europe has already underlined its future security. In terms of sewage treatment, China still has technical difficulties while on the other hand Europe has begun to work on world market opportunities. Apart from the technology there is also the non-technological aspect. This is linked to the urban inhabitants' income. When they have reached a certain level of income, they become exigent over water quality, which is not the case when their level of income is low.

LIU Jinghao, Senior Engineer, Deputy Director and Chief Engineer of Environmental Sanitation Engineering Research Centre of Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development

The amount of landfill in the EU is decreasing: China needs to learn how to achieve refined management of waste

In a country or region the management of domestic garbage generally goes through three stages. First, for 10-20 years the process mainly consists of making laws and doing basic work. Europe went through this stage in the 1970s, China in the 1990s. There is a 20-year gap between them. The second stage focuses on building infrastructure, landfills and recycling plants. This takes approximately 10 years. Then the third step requires refined management involving many concepts such as sustainable development, the development of low carbon or the principle of zero waste, etc.

In the EU waste management is a mandatory subject. Each country can modify its own laws on that basis. There are three most important mandatory laws: the Framework Directive, the landfill decree, and the incineration decree.

From 1995 to 2011, 27 countries in the EU had to deal with a total amount of some 250 million tons of waste. We can observe that the total amount is stable, but the percentage of recycled, biologically treated and burned waste increases. The landfill is an exception and its use is decreasing. Europe now has very careful management - for instance, it makes great efforts in the publication of data.

Now I would like to say a few words about the situation of China. In China there are generally four branches dedicated to waste management: the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development is in charge of the collection, transport and treatment of domestic waste; the Department of Environment supervises industrial dangerous goods; the Department of Trade is in charge of waste recovery. After recycling, the National Development and Reform Commission is responsible for the use of resources.

When we study the Chinese data we have to make a difference between the statistics related to cities and those to towns. In China we have 657 cities and 1627 towns. The rate of detoxification is 79.8% in cities and 40.5% in county towns.

Most of incineration plants are found in developed areas of China. These have a rating system. Those with the AAA grade are all located in Guangzhou.

In China, in order to deal with waste we used to choose one method from landfill, incineration and composting. Now following in the footsteps of Europe, we are beginning to adopt a hierarchical management. In the future, after the construction of landfills and incinerators, we'll consider the third development stage; that is how to achieve sustainable development of resources, how to conduct secure management in order to treat waste in a hygienic and secure way. We still need to learn from Europe.

LI Yong, Chair and Party Secretary and General Manager of ZhenZhou Yutong Heavy Industries Co. Ltd

Sustainable development and environmental protection are the responsibility of the enterprises and represent

new market opportunities for them.

The main activity of the Yutong Group is the fabrication of buses. Yutong Heavy Industries are a branch of the group and includes an environmental protection organisation.

When it comes to environmental protection, we are determined to be a supplier in China which provides a package of equipment for treating household garbage. Our objective consists of providing integrated solutions for urban environmental pollution, such as kitchen garbage disposal, sewage treatment and sludge treatment. We hope to provide solutions for city decision-makers to deal with household garbage, especially solid and as well as liquid ones.

Regarding the situation of China city garbage management, we are working together with some Chinese design institutions to conceive an industrial park based on the circular economy. We are building this industrial park with support from different areas, such as logistics, capital, energy and information. We can get bring all household garbage together. It can form a self-circulation system, including garbage collection, transfer, liquid oxygen, incineration, recycling, and in the end build a circular economy industrial park.

In China the major waste treatment methods include landfill, incineration and composting. The landfills account for 70% of all waste treatment. This causes a great lost to our resources and results in a bad influence on groundwater and the surrounding environment. To meet the need of cities, to explore development potential and environmental governance, it is urgent to be equipped with landfill closure and repair technology. We are talking here with our European partners about the repair technology for landfills and how to regain the commercial value of landfills by technical means.

BAI Wen, Deputy General Manager of the Guangri Group, General Manager of Guangzhou Environmental Protection Investment Co., Ltd

The attention of senior government officials is important in order to solve the waste problem

Guangzhou's capacity in waste management is not sufficient. The city centre produces 10,000 tons of waste per day of which 1000 tons are burnt and 7000 tons are landfilled. If it continues like this the landfill of Guangzhou will reach its full 2015.

What should Guangzhou do to get out of this "garbage siege" situation in the coming two years? The core of the problem is that we haven't reached a common conscience about the way to handle the waste.

To solve this problem we need to draw the attention of the local authority in Guangzhou. The city is quite lucky. Thanks to the decision-makers' attachment to this issue, they have reached step-by-step a lot of common understandings for waste management in the future.

Local government has attached great importance to the disposal of rubbish. Assured by the financial support, we have built the Likeng incineration plant with a 1.1 billion yuan investment. If we include the compensation fees for relocated residents who once lived nearby, it cost a total number of 1.8 billion yuan. If all the projects applied the same approach, it would be quite some financial pressure for the local authority. Afterwards we carried out some research and built several circular economy industrial parks. We have bought the land near the incineration plant. By doing so we cannot only relieve surrounding residents' anxiety but also introduce a whole industry of rubbish and sewage treatment. In this way we can overcome residents' psychological resistance.

FU Lu, China Director of Clean Air Asia

Tackle air pollution at its sources in the process of urbanisation

Clean Air Asia is a non-profit organisation. We are specialised in improving air quality in Asian cities, reducing emissions of greenhouse gases and developing liveable cities. From 2011 we have built a regional cooperation network in the Yangtze delta. Through a third and neutral party we hope to strengthen the two regions'

collaboration in terms of air management.

Every expert here knows very well that over the past few decades it is China's development, from industrialisation to urbanisation that has caused the serious air pollution problem. So now what is our opportunity to tackle this issue? During the past few decades China has invested a lot in sewage treatment, air pollution control, but the results of that are not as optimistic as we had thought. The Third Plenary Session of the 18th Central Committee has mentioned the construction of ecological civilisation. We are wondering if this gesture can push forward air management and make it more scientific. This is our opportunity.

In the course of China's urbanisation, how do we deal with air pollution by reducing pollution at its sources instead of by tackling the issue at the end of pipe?

The recent national plans are focused on regions which are not so highly polluted. The air pollution problem in Harbin (north-east China) is quite serious. It is a second-tier instead of a third-tier city and needs to continue its economic development, which is why it is not included in a national action plan. As a result, this city cannot obtain more financial and technical assistance, or any other support in terms of human resources. Can this breach show us a direction in EU-China cooperation?

ZHOU Xiangwu, Deputy General Manager, the New Earth Environmental Co., Ltd

Environmental planning of urban waters should be taken to a systematic level coupled with the integration of numerous industries

Founded in 1999, our enterprise is a professional service provider for environmental protection activities. For now our business covers sludge treatment and ecological recovery of water. We also provide other environmentally friendly equipment for sewage treatment plants. Apart from Tibet, almost every city in China has at least one sewage treatment plant equipped with our products in operation.

The environment of urban waters is concerned with the water body environment in urban areas which is essential to the living world's survival, the function of flood control, water supply and water quality as well as harmonious landscapes. The environmental restoration of waters is systematic, comprehensive and complex. The current situation of the domestic urban water environment is not optimistic, but from the perspective of national governance and policy orientation the Chinese people are paying more and more attention to the matter. Thanks to this, during the past five years every city has made significant investments in urban water environment planning projects, usually worth more than a hundred billion yuan. But this does not result in important progress in terms of government efficiency or urban water environment quality.

The environmental recovery of urban waters must be a systematic project. To deal with this problem the integration of industries is quite important. Our idea is: We must proceed from a systematic perspective and start from planning in order to treat the environmental problem of urban waters.

Maurizio Mariani, President of the Consortium Risteco, CEO of Sotral Spa, Italy

It was a very rich morning with so many interventions about water management, waste management and air pollution. Yesterday Alex Minshall from the city of Bristol launched a kind of challenge about the next climate change meeting, to take place in Paris in December 2015, where all the worldwide actors will be present to find a common solution, a common strategy for greenhouse gas emissions reduction.

I would like to ask the two European speakers of today, Gerald and Catherine, to express their vision about the climate change meeting in Paris, and if we should find a mutual agreement and find a way to stop the problem of greenhouse gas emissions, as well as air pollution.

Gerard Magnin, Secretary General Energycities

Yesterday and this morning, even though we talked about the integrated approach, we have an approach regarding waste management, an approach regarding water management, another for air quality, and only then at the local level and not at the global level; so we cannot have an holistic picture.

We are all victims of a formal Silo Mentality; we think in one sphere, the waste sphere for example, and someone else is reflecting on the energy sphere, but there is not always a connection between the two. What I would like to say as my last comment is that according to me, our big challenge is to have an integrated approach at the local level of all the dimensions of environmental issues, social issues and economic issues and then, at all levels from local to global level to align the implementation of local actions with global challenges. If sometimes we think we do the best at the local level, however, there could be contradictions at the global level so we absolutely need to have such a global approach.

Catherine Savart, Groupe VEOLIA ENVIRONNEMENT, France

In the EU we move forward because of the policies, standards and regulations. They are real drivers for the cities and also for companies. It is also a challenge because of the funds we need. That is also why we tend to develop industrial ecology and materials recovery and recycling resources which can contribute to optimise the whole system.

LIU Jinghao, Senior Engineer, Deputy Director and Chief Engineer of Environmental Sanitation Engineering Research Centre of the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development

China and Europe could build more sister city friendships and be engaged in deep cooperation

Now 100% of incinerators built in China are used to generate electricity.

In the urban areas of China we are facing lots of environmental problems, but they are still treated in an extensive approach. In terms of waste disposal, either we dig a pit and bury all of the rubbish, or we build a waste incineration plant to burn all the waste. In the future we should come up with more sophisticated solutions.

As far as I know, in 2000 the mayors of the UK city Bristol and Guangzhou, capital city of Guangdong Province, co-signed a cooperation framework as sister cities. This comprehensive framework includes many areas, from transport, tourism and economy to culture. I hope, with the background of EU-China urbanisation cooperation, these two cities can deepen their collaboration on urbanisation, especially in the field of environmental governance.

Session Three: Sustainable Production Chains

Maurizio Mariani, President of the Consortium Risteco, CEO of Sotral Spa, Italy

Eating City is an international platform established by Risteco and the Charles Leopold Mayer Foundation. Since 2010 it has been working around social dialogue to foster sustainability in the public service.

Regarding sustainability in the European market, we should say that the systems in Europe and in the USA are quite similar, so we should assume these figures that I will present are the same per capita in modern occidental food service. At Risteco we are working around public food service and we identify public food service as a big lever for shifting the paradigm of the food system. Consider that the public food service in Europe is a huge market, representing €77billion in turnover.

As far as the externalities of the food system are concerned, we should assume that, for example, for the school canteen, hospital canteen or industry canteen, for each meal that is served each day there is around 250g of waste

and 80g of this is organic waste. Considering that the entire food system in Europe is around 12 million tons of waste, in CO2 emission this means 23 million tons of CO2 equivalent. A recent 2012 FAO Report states that there is 1.3 billion tons of food waste and losses around the world.

The cost of recovering this problem of obesity represents, in Europe, around 8% of the total health system. In Europe, as in the US, there is a great deal of discussion going on about the fact that we need to produce more food. We think that we need to re-evaluate the supply chain of food production and we need to consider the paradigm in food production. We need systemic vision of food-value chains which allows us to reduce greenhouse gas emissions all along the entire supply chain.

Our intention in Europe as in the United States which is behind my project, is one of the main reasons for the big environmental part of our food service, food system. We need to re-base a few systems more on a seasonal vegetable basis, not to be 100% vegetarian but to reduce meat consumption and especially red meat consumption. These are some of the key points in shifting the paradigm into this more sustainable way. CO2 emissions related to the consumption of one meal begin from 1.7kg if it is a vegetarian meal versus up to 7kg of greenhouse gas emission per meal if it is not. Logistics, I mean the distance that we use to buy our food, should weigh only 2kg of CO2 for one meal, so logistics is one of the main issues of our supply chain.

If we take fish production, the fish catch as an example, we can distinguish two scales worldwide, especially in Europe and the US; a large one and a small one: Artisanal fishing and industrial fishing. For the same amount of fish caught per year, around 20 million tons in the large and small scale, the employment rate in the large scale is only half a million of workers and, as you can see, for the small scale it is 24 times more the number of employees and also the environmental impact of 37 million of fuel consumption versus five million and less scarring to the sea. The small scale is much more efficient.

To conclude on the shift of the paradigm, we are considering a side business - three main resources as financial, technical and human resources - and we think that after many years of study and after the debates of this forum, need to take into consideration that there is a fourth resource that is fundamental to business. It is nature. This is not an endless resource just as there are not endless financial technical and human resources. From tomorrow we can also use taxation as a lever to encourage the development of innovative and sustainable agro-food systems. There will be no smart city without smart food policy...

Our common future is to increase the international win-win cooperation to face the food challenge because the food challenge is a global issue that we must manage at regional and local levels. We need new metrics in order to include food sustainability in the smart city concept creating the smart food policy.

TAN Xuewen, Associate Research Fellow of Rural Development of the Institute Chinese Academy of Social Science, Secretary-General of the Chinese Association of Foreign Agricultural Economics Forums

Only 10% of food chains in China are sustainable

The whole food system is made up of countless food supply chains. If the number of sustainable food supply chains increases, the sustainability of the whole system can be reinforced. If the food supply chains take into consideration aspects such as environmental ecology and food security, they can be considered as sustainable. In this case, 10% of food chains are sustainable, but there are still 90% which remain the normal agricultural and food system.

As to this situation, I would like to give my analysis of the food chain situation in China as well as the possibilities and the difficulties that confront China-EU cooperation. From a micro perspective, more and more new agricultural food models or alternative agriculture systems have emerged over the past years in response to food security problems and consumer demands. Most of them either came into shape automatically or were encouraged by the market, NGOs and the government.

For example, there are many medium and small sized direct sale farms in the cities and their suburbs. Usually they apply a membership system for urban residents. In the most recent one or two years, the most popular ones are

“organic country fair”, “weekend station fair” and the “weekend transport fair” driven by the government, as well as the market-oriented fair initiated by the enterprises.

Another example is about public catering in government buildings, schools and office locations. Public catering corresponds to public food services. We have been engaged in China-EU cooperation for several years. During last year’s conference in Guangzhou city, the invited researchers realised that public catering should play a more important role in promoting the sustainable food system, but for now China hasn’t done a good job in this area and has been aware of its potential. Here we still call on the visionary university presidents and mayors of middle and small sized cities to push forward this project.

From a macro perspective, we are more concerned about how to improve the sustainability of the food system for the ordinary public and the whole of society.

Establish an independent food security inspection institution for the services of consumers

I would like to suggest a direction for the cooperation between EU and China in the area of food security. When it comes to agricultural products even to organic food, consumer distrust prevails in China. The producers and consumers have different kinds of views on this issue. Even when the manufacturers have insisted that their products are secure and safe, the ordinary people always think the opposite. We think it is not sufficient to simply count on the government, but that we also need third-party inspection. I propose to establish a third party which acts as an independent food security inspection institution for the services of consumers instead of the enterprises. In this case if the consumers doubt the quality of their products, they can send them to these institutions. At an affordable price they can get a convincing and legal result.

Another suggestion: the relevant NGOs and independent agencies can themselves carry out food safety sampling. In this case they will be charged to take samples from the market and send them to the inspection institutions. This can also deter companies who don’t respect the laws.

CHANG Tianle, Initiator of Country Fair

I have three points to share. First, are typical food chains sustainable? Second, a simple presentation of the Country Fair. Third, the movement of EU-China food safety cooperation.

The current food production and distribution system cannot meet the needs of both producers and consumers. The consumers are faced with problems such as frequent food safety incidents and scandals. They feel insecure and sometimes confused when it comes to advertisements and media coverage. It is difficult for them to find convenient, trustworthy and affordable safe food. On the other hand, the manufacturers are not spared by these issues, such as the widespread use of pesticides and fertilisers. At the same time in order to assure their profits they are obliged to increase the quantity of their production. In the case of food safety scandals, they confront market insecurity and the risk of losses. In this atmosphere some farmers may even come up with the idea of becoming engaged in the ecological agriculture; they feel unsure about the economic outlook.

Country Fair is considered to be one of the Chinese capital’s most enticing venues by the British journal the Financial Times. We expect to achieve the four following points:

1. Now that agriculture has become the primary cause of pollution and poses a serious threat to the soil, we expect to reduce environmental pollution caused by fertilisers and pesticides.
2. We expect to practice fair trade, place emphasis on economic justice and be engaged in rural development, so that small farmers earn more money through the food system to live a better life.
3. We expect to assure food safety, promote the green lifestyle and advocate green production methods.
4. As the information is not transparent between producers and consumers, they lack mutual trust and solidarity. We expect to rebuild this social trust between the two sides.

The origins of this country fair are quite simple. It is to build a platform for face-to-face contact between consumers and producers. Our clients are small and medium farmers, who are the most vulnerable in the market.

We also provide services for ordinary consumers. That has always been our position. We have little interest in the gift market or in special supply services and we don't intend to transform organic agriculture to a high-end and luxury one.

Our partners are usually small sized farms and it is very difficult for them to obtain accreditation. In this case we encourage other producers, the consumers and NGOs to come here in order to learn more about their production process. We encourage the use of some traditional food processing methods, because for now in China the abusive use of food additives is becoming a big concern in food security. We would like to conserve traditional production methods which are part of Chinese culture.

We support more than 100 producers across our partners. Every week we hold one to three fairs for more than 100,000 people. At every fair we gain about 150,000 to 200,000 yuan and these revenues go directly into the pockets of farmers. This year's annual sales can reach more than 10 million yuan. Now, across all parts of China, country fairs are emerging. Most are from the grassroots society, including some voluntary groups like us. We also organise salons and seminars. During these round-table conferences, consumers and producers can sit down to talk about the problems they confront in the food production process. We also organise ecological agriculture training.

Maurizio Mariani, President of the Consortium Risteco, CEO of Sotral Spa, Italy

This is the last part of our workshop, and I would like to summarise the results of today and also of yesterday afternoon. I take some words from yesterday's meeting, and I see that we can use maybe a part of the result of the meeting from yesterday for today too, because the vision and the aim of the workshop is quite the same; the basic components are the environmental issue, sustainable development, water management, waste management, resources and food.

From yesterday:

- We need a more scientific approach.
- We need more cooperation between European and Chinese research; we really need a win-win relation for research and university.
- More possibility of social dialogue between the two civilian societies, between Chinese and European people.
- Mutualise experience: For example, the idea of mutualising the award of Green Capital and to use a similar award here in China was mentioned yesterday.
- Mutualise a measuring system to evaluate sustainability in the city.
- Increase mutual understanding between societies to build up maybe a kind of network, or an international platform for Chinese and European people.
- Stimulate active citizenship, because we cannot reach any level of sustainability, either in Europe or China if there is no engagement of the citizen.
- Exchange experiences from Europe to China for the transformation of mining cities. That was done in Europe some years ago and is a challenge today for Chinese cities.

CAI Yihong, Secretary General of CIUDSRC

I have an idea. In 2011 the China International Urbanisation Development Strategy Research Committee (CIUDSRC) and the European Commission together addressed a research subject, which can be complemented at the China Europa Forum level. The subject is about comparative research between Chinese and European cities of different sizes and geographical locations.

We chose London and Amsterdam as the targeted cities in Europe. The corresponding Chinese cities are Tianjing and Wuhan. The current situation in China looks quite like that of Europe in one period of its history. So across this comparative study we want to know about how we can learn from Europe during the same period with the same background, especially in the areas of urbanisation, environmental protection, domestic migration and infrastructure construction, etc.

Maurizio Mariani, President of the Consortium Risteco, CEO of Sotral Spa, Italy

You said something that is very important. There is diversity with Europe; diversity in size, diversity in country, diversity in cultural heritage between Europe and China.

But I think that one of the goals is not to homologate a system that would be good for all of us, we need to respect our diversity, because our diversity is the richness of our dialogue.

CAI Yihong, Secretary General of CIUDSRC

As we visited the Dalang community on November 16, the European participants noticed that 500,000 people were living in a space of 17.5 square kilometres. What does it mean if we take 500,000 people in Europe? It's a big city, but in China it's a small community. I think through the comparative studies we can find similarities between China and Europe, as well as their differences. Only by this method can we succeed in a real EU-China communication and dialogue. We did not expect that after two days of visit, European experts could give us useful suggestions. In China a lot of experts, entrepreneurs and government officials visit Europe for professional reasons, but what they do is just enjoy the beautiful scenery and drink red wine. These trips are quite negative and are not efficient at all. As a dialogue platform of civilian society, the China Europa Forum is committed to realising this bottom-up cooperation and to striving for further improvement for EU-China cooperation. The fact that the collaborations between the two regions have been staying on the surface for so many years remains a big obstacle. Breaking this deadlock is exactly the meaning as well as the importance of the forum.

Maurizio Mariani, President of the Consortium Risteco, CEO of Sotral Spa, Italy

Regarding technology transfer, I totally agree with you. The only problem today between Europe and China is that European companies are sometimes afraid to export technology here to China. This problem of intellectual property is something that must be solved in the coming years.

CAI Yihong, Secretary General of CIUDSRC

First I will answer the question posed by Mr Maurizio Mariani about technology transfer. If we succeed in building this bottom-up communication model through our efforts, Chinese citizens' awareness of Intellectual Property Rights protection will be strengthened. Urbanisation in China has proved to be one of the highlights of this EU-China dialogue. We should not avoid this IPR protection problem as you mentioned and it is urgent to find a solution. At present ordinary people's awareness of IPR protection is quite weak because urbanisation in China came through a primary but rapid development period. Meanwhile the NGOs can help to enhance citizen awareness of IPR protection.

I totally agree with what you said about communication. Today our discussion should offer some suggestions which can be used as a framework. From a macro perspective, the interactions between China and Europe should be at different levels, not only city to city, town to town, village to village, but also community to community. Only through this can we make comparisons and achieve cooperation at macro, medium, micro and even individual level in areas such as urban plans, transport, infrastructure construction, air, water, ecological environment. So a partnership based on mutual help will finally come into shape. The Chinese market will open up naturally and import EU technology. In this case it is natural that our two societies establish a mutually beneficial and win-win

cooperation.

Gerard Magnin, Secretary General Energycities

I will follow up on this discussion. I share a lot of things that have been said and I would like to emphasize one or two of them. I have a list of twinnings between Chinese cities and provinces and European ones; a list of 600 twinnings. Among these 600 I am pretty sure that there are maybe 50 which are interested in and working on developing exchanges on the topics we have discussed over these two days. It is very important as my colleague said, to be very pragmatic with exchanges and to discuss things on thematic issues and governance issues. How will we be able to do so? How do we have to organise our city administrations? How are we organised with communities in the city? With stakeholders? Citizens? This part is, I think, the most important one when you exchange between cities.

I know a lot of European cities working with Chinese cities but these European cities usually do not talk with each other about their individual experiences in twinning with Chinese cities. There is not in Europe a networking of and exchange between the cities for them to share experiences on how they are working with China's cities. And I guess it is the same in China with Chinese cities working with European cities. To conclude, we need to be realistic, pragmatic, and I think one output of our common work should be to implement this idea and organise a first group of cities from the EU and from China which are already twinned because we need to use the framework of an existing process - it is always better - to work very pragmatically on the several ideas mentioned before.

Maurizio Mariani, President of the Consortium Risteco, CEO of Sotral Spa, Italy

To be honest I think one of the main barriers for cooperation between China and Europe is coming from Europe, because while China is a unique country Europe has 28 member states, 28 different cultures. Thus we should use, as you say, existing platforms, existing instruments for cooperation.

But again the occasion to launch the idea seems to be the China-Europa Forum. It has existed since 2006 and was created by the Charles Leopold Mayer Foundation. This organisation partners and is co-financing the China-Europa Forum and next year the forum will be in Europe. What we must do now is to make a proposition from our workshop tomorrow in the final session and engage to organise an event, a workshop of two or three days establishing a framework either for sustainable cities or, as we call them now in Europe, the "smart cities" project.

TAN Xuewen, Associate Research Fellow of Rural Development of the Institute Chinese Academy of Social Science, Secretary-General of the Chinese Association of Foreign Agricultural Economics Forums

"System", "mechanism" and "governance": These are the keywords that occurred regularly during these two days of conference. This also confirms my feeling. During these two days I also noticed another keyword - "participation" - running through the entire forum. It means the participation of citizens, farmers and also stakeholders. Participation means development and planning, but why? Yesterday we presented the European Green Capital and this afternoon we discussed the organic Country Fair. Everyone is participating enthusiastically. The food security problems we have mentioned are actually about the fact that stakeholders confront traditional and rigid systems but can't protect their own interests by any means.

FU Lu, China Director of Clean Air Asia

My question is, what is the role of our group for the whole Guangzhou forum? How will the final results of this forum contribute to the EU-China Summit held in Beijing? What is the importance of this summit to general EU-China operations? It is only by understanding the purpose and functions of these activities that we can

proceed in the systematic institutional design.

Europe has a lot of experiences to share with any other country in the world. In a big country such as China we can cooperate with others in different fields. Maybe everyone has a little problem. We have to know the ultimate aim before putting our designs into practice. Take the environmental issues, for example. China's development has reached a certain level and now we share all of the environmental problems the European and American countries have suffered before in their own urbanisation. We are even in a worse situation than them.

When it comes to the institutional design in China, this forum offers a very good model. It is only through a forum such as the China-Europa Forum that we can gather all of the stakeholders together to discuss institutional design.

I believe that such cooperation also needs to be treated at an institutional level. Even if you have the opportunity to talk with senior leaders in China, if the conversation can't be brought up to an institutional side it's useless. Second, it's very important to build a cooperation framework. The successful cases can be used as models to expand to the other parts of China. I think it is only by this kind of cooperation that our activities can be effective.

CAI Yihong, Secretary General of CIUDSRC

The report of the Third Plenary Session of the 18th Central Committee mentioned: "The institutional reforms must be effective before 2020". This is the commitment about the deadline.

Different administrative departments are lowering their thresholds about various administrative examinations and approvals, especially when it concerns qualification certification. Some associations have got this qualified certification which can go be slowly socialised and commercialised. This is good news both for European Union and Chinese private companies.

Catherine Savart, Groupe VEOLIA ENVIRONNEMENT, France

Thank you for the good news. Certification is a very important thing because we have to compete with other companies and we have got the quality and the price. You know we have more than a hundred years of experience and know-how and we need to make it valued on the market. So certification is for us very good news because it is going to be a good way to make our business valued.

Maurizio Mariani

Climate change challenge is a common challenge, a worldwide challenge.

José Ignacio Arriba

The bottom-up approach is important but up-down feedback is also very important. It should not get lost...

Maurizio Mariani

Yes I agree, the bottom-up approach must be really concrete and pragmatic. We need to be able to address concrete propositions for our governments, the European and Chinese governments, and to be recognised as a group, a think-tank that is helping the melting of these two cultures, the European and the Chinese. This is the role of the China-Europa Forum, to really address concrete propositions.

WANG Bingchen, Deputy Director of the China International Urbanisation Development Strategy Research Committee, Senior Counsellor of the State Council, Famous Hydrogeologist

I would like to conclude in a few words. After one and half days of presentations and discussions we have reached the following consensus: China and the European Union have very broad cooperation perspectives. I'm convinced

that European countries have rich experiences which can inspire China.

As to the cooperation model, we realised across the discussion that it is necessary to proceed in cooperation at different levels. The collaboration should not be limited to the central governmental level, but also be organised at the local government, business and academic levels.

I totally agree with the points of view put forward by other participants. Cooperation should not only be in the technology field but also be expanded to other areas, such as institutional cooperation. My conclusion is that the forum is worthy of praise and has a very significant meaning.

Workshop 4: Evolution of the governance model, training and communication

Section 1: Governance Model and its Evolution

Pierre Calame, President of the China-Europa Forum Foundation, President of the Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation for Human Progress (FPH)

My first point is what governance is about. Governance is a very serious issue of how society manages itself. It includes institutions, culture, processes, the different regulations, and we have to look at it as a global process.

Why is the governance evolution so difficult and why is it so important?

When we talk about governance we are always facing a contradiction when society is in rapid evolution.

Why? Because governance is the very framework of society. It should be stable because it is part of the identity of the society, part of the culture.

On the one hand it should be stable. But on the other, when society or the world is transforming very rapidly, the need for a change in regulations becomes huge. So it is essential between the need for stability and the need of evolution... it's always these contradictions that need to be overcome. It is very difficult.

Therefore, in a period of a rapid evolution of society, rapid evolution of macro-political tendencies, there is a lag between governance and the need for regulations. We are exactly at this situation when our present governance is just able to deal with the complex society, complex interdependency. We are in a phase of a dangerous gap between what is to teach, what is taught, what is practised as government and what it should be. There is huge tension and huge danger and that is why it's one of the bigger issues of our time.

The idea is that for democracy to work correctly, you need to know who is responsible for what. So you have to give exclusive competencies to each level of governance.

At the same time we know that no one single problem in society can be solved at a unique level. So there is a contradiction between democracy and efficiency of governance. A third point is that administration is segmented into departments whether at the national level or the local level, but we need to manage inter-relationships between the various issues. How do we do that?

Fourth. There is a gap between politician and bureaucrats. The way we need to work towards the transition, toward a sustainable society, requires a broad alliance of bureaucrats and politicians. But how do we do that?

We need to build a fundamentally different theory of governance if we want to face the issues of our times.

Aline Delatte, Urban Expert / Manager, Berlin, Germany

The Role of Citizens in Urban Development - Examples from Berlin

I would first like to show that citizen participation is already a question that everyone discusses at different levels – at an international level, European level, national level or city level-and there are different commitments and guidelines that have been developed.

I went through some of the guidelines and commitments that people understand at different levels and a question at the local level is what the role of the citizen is in urban governance.

I present to you a case study from Berlin, Germany, covering a neighbourhood of 17,000 inhabitants in which there are different urban programmes, urban rehabilitation programmes financed and supported by multiple levels - federal, state and city.

As a multi-level programme the ministries of transport, building and urban development are involved at a federal level, while at the city level is the City of Berlin. At a neighbourhood level it is the district administration and at the local level there is a citizens' council representing the citizens. What is interesting to see is that there is also a coordination office in the process which is organising the entire programme on the urban planning side as well as the communications between the various stakeholders.

What, then, is the role of citizens? I think there are two different roles that citizens can play at the local level. The first is that citizens are stakeholders within the local governments in a long-term process and the second is that citizens participate in the top-down process as local experts taking part in the participating process that the public administration or the planner organises during specific projects or workshops.

How does the first role of the citizens in the long-term process work within local governance in our neighbourhood? On the one hand the citizens represent a civilian society composed of citizens and organisations; on the other they are stakeholders within local governance and must negotiate the administration, the politicians and partners. These citizen councils are composed of five citizens elected by other citizens and they meet monthly to discuss the project and what is going on in the neighbourhood.

They also meet monthly with the administration and the planners of the process.

The framework and the theory is quite a good basis for participatory democracy at a local level, but there are still matters involved which mean we also need a stronger legal framework at the governance level to recognise the citizens as real stakeholders and to share in a plural responsibility.

At civil society level it is very important that the initiative and organisation at a local level works together and has the competencies associated with neighbourhood cohesion.

Concerning the second role of citizens as local experts in the planning process, I have summarised the various bases for the case study of the rehabilitation of the green area in this city thus, starting from the concept development. What is the public administration? We organised a participatory process based on workshop with citizens, encouraging meetings during the design plan decision process. Some conflicts occurred at the civil society side and this was followed by a political escalation not only at the neighbourhood level but also at the district level. It was something we therefore could have avoided had we used a sign before the design plan and if we had involved the citizens at the beginning of the process in the concept elaboration. We could also have avoided these conflicts had we used appropriate communication tools among stakeholders. It is really important to bring the citizen in at the beginning of the project.

To conclude I wanted to summarise that citizens work with the public authorities at a horizontal level within governance, and citizens as local experts work, perhaps for a shorter term for specific issues, at the vertical level in the framework of the participatory process initiated by the city.

YAO Zhongqiu (QIU Feng), President of the Council of the Unirule Institute of Economics

Cultural Consciousness in Urban Governance

My address has three keywords: urbanisation, governance and culture. China is experiencing tremendous transformation in these three areas.

First, urbanisation policies have changed twice over the past three decades in China. From the 1980s to the mid-1990s township enterprises were developed and the government especially encouraged the development of small towns. From the mid-1990s the government focused more on the development of medium and large sized cities. At the beginning of 2012, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang launched the new round of urbanisation, re-emphasising the importance of small and medium sized towns. As far as I understand, the fundamental idea for the new urbanisation is to achieve partial equilibrium in cities and form a more balanced economic and social structure between urban and rural areas.

As a super large country, China needs the development of big cities, sometimes even ultra-large-scale cosmopolises as well as a great number of small and medium sized cities. In addition, the development of rural areas is extremely important too. I particularly emphasise the importance of the countryside, because it is not only a place of food production but a cradle of civilisation. China's large-city oriented strategy over past decades has resulted in rural areas being ignored, posing severe challenges to Chinese civilisation. Autonomy can be achieved only in small and medium sized regions, so from the perspective of promoting a change in governance we should pay more attention to small cities and township.

Second, China is going through a dramatic change in governance. In the mid-1900s a change from governance to rule took place and the government became the sole governing body in China, which is technically unsustainable. Since the 1980s the sole centre of governance started to loosen and autonomous social forces began to nurture and develop. In this process it is noted that those places where traditional Chinese culture is well preserved are normally the areas with the most developed social autonomy. For instance, the Pearl River Delta, Fujian and Zhejiang have a deep tradition of self-governance. Since the 1990s rapid urbanisation has led to a disintegrating rural social structure and no effective network of social autonomy has been established in cities. China is facing a critical issue over how to establish a viable system of social autonomy in cities.

Third, I would like to talk about the importance of culture to urban governance. Culture is not only the basis of governance but a crucial means of governance. In my opinion the church served as the very important foundation in the governance of European cities, while in traditional China temples and ancestral halls played the same role. Governing the will of the people is fundamental to governance and religion and/or religion-based culture is the basis of governance. Discussions on urban governance in China are much more difficult than in Europe or the United States because we have to take into account not only systems but also cultures and values. It is quite easy to sense indifference in today's Chinese cities. Due to a lack of culture, plenty of cities built over the past decade are inhumane.

FENG Xingyuan, Deputy Director of the Unirule Institute of Economics

Urban Planning and Personal Property Rights Protection

My presentation is about modern urban planning and the protection of personal property rights. Cooperative planning is based on local democracy. However, urban planning in China, even based on the latest *Urban and Rural Planning Law* launched in 2007, lacks a democratic public selection process and the regime of protecting fundamental rights of individuals. Only a handful of places in China have tried out participatory planning in project design, but a lack of local democracy easily makes this a decoration.

Currently the most common approach to urban land development is as follows: the government, with a big investment of funds, seizes land through land acquisition at low cost from a rural population then sells to real-estate developers at high prices or transfers to businesses at low prices, meanwhile allocating part of the land to infrastructure. After gaining the revenues generated from the land transfer, the government will invest in a new round of land acquisition and development. Under this pattern, if China's new urbanisation cannot be carried out on the basis of safeguarding the basic rights of the people, massive destruction of property rights will continue to occur.

Ideal urban planning has the following metrics: the protection of the fundamental rights of individuals, a

democratic decision-making process, full respect for expertise and knowledge, and participatory planning.

CAO Gang, Vice Dean of the Shaanxi Academy of Governance

Take a Comprehensive Approach in Urban Governance

People first. People live in a city for a better life style, so urban construction should be based on this principle. Second comes the pursuit of comprehensive, balanced and sustainable development. In this regard it is particularly important to deal properly with the interests of people so as to develop and manage the infrastructure. Third, we should pay attention to the development and modernisation of thoughts and behaviours, which are the preconditions of a modern city. Fourth, we should build and govern cities with developing ideas and conform to the trend of modernisation. In addition, we should make the most of new technologies in urban development and governance. Fifth, city decision-makers should make unceasing progress and improve themselves for modern governance.

Q&A

Q1

In 2009 Guangdong launched an urban renewal campaign during which plenty of “village-in-city” cases have emerged. Farmers in those villages lost their land after land acquisition by the government but they became rich with lucrative compensation. A great number of them gambled their easily earned money. From a cultural perspective, what will the government do to make urbanisation play a positive role and ensure those villagers do good work after becoming citizens of cities?

QIU Feng

In future we have to avoid this phenomenon. Under the existing land requisition system farmers will lose their land. Their ruined lifestyle, largely resulting from them becoming rich overnight and having nothing else to do, is because of the lack of well-educated gentlemen in rural communities who can guide farmers to lead a more meaningful life. This is the core of social development.

Q2

If I understand it correctly, you are in favour of the governance model of ancient China. The fact was, however, that farmers in that time bore a heavy tax burden. When faced with natural disasters the government would apply a policy of benevolence but still without sound social security. So is civilian autonomy in ancient China a real sense of autonomy or just a way of self-help for helpless and suppressed farmers? Is there any essential difference between autonomy in ancient China and what we are seeking nowadays?

QIU Feng

I believe that autonomy in traditional China had the same quintessence as that in modern China. In traditional China society and government worked in cooperation with due division of labour; government was in charge of social security and justice while the majority of public products were produced and distributed by society on its own. As a result the social security system differed fundamentally from the social welfare system in modern society. The main provider of social welfare in European countries is the government while that in traditional China was society. In my opinion traditional China had a better social security system than European countries.

FENG Xingyuan

Let me go further with this topic. I think Professor Qiufeng’s core point is that when emphasising the role of leadership and culture in governance he is much more concerned about the issue of whether core values and codes of conduct in traditional society, such as virtues of benevolence, righteousness, propriety, wisdom and trustworthiness, can return to China.

CAO Gang

Differences between China and western countries lie in a legal basis because in western countries decisions rest with the people while in China government is the ultimate decision-maker. Therefore, China's decision-making system should be reformed and set down in legal procedures. Results and decisions reached through legal procedures will be generally accepted.

LI Yuxiao

We had an incredibly rich workshop this afternoon. First we touched on conceptual issues of urban governance from an academic point of view. Second we discussed the framework of urban governance from the structural perspective. Third we explored the paths to be followed in urbanisation from the perspective of implementation. In urban governance a critical issue to be taken into account is that the government, the general public and other aspects of society have changed a lot in face of urban development and construction. Because of these changes the old-fashioned governance models and traditional approaches of management have changed fundamentally. What I want to highlight is that research on the urban governance system is just being established. Facing plenty of insurmountable difficulties, we need to further dialogues between China and Europe. Our discussions this afternoon still remain at the exploration level and we need to seek workable solutions.

Section 2: Smart Cities

MIAO Kai, Expert at the IBM Intelligent Operation Centre, Senior Architect of IBM Smart City

Innovations in Smart City

Smart City is not a purely technical issue but an issue of the common development of stakeholders in a city. It is a product of social development. First, as the evolution of city development, conflicts between demand and supply emerge. Second, the integration of sophisticated information technology and urban development offers a precondition for the Smart City. Smart City is not digital city, and it covers green and low-carbon development, efficient operation, and maximisation of the efficient use of resources as well as sustainable governance.

Smart City was proposed based on the increasingly complex contradiction between public demand and supply. Key demands of a city include safety, quick and easy access, opportunities and continued prosperity while the core of a city's supply rests with infrastructure, fundamental resources and energy, industries and opportunities, and education, etc.

IBM proposed the three "I" strategy to develop the Smart City. *Instrumentation* means to apply better means to get to know the existing urban resources. The *Interconnection* approach is to create synergies by linking resources among cities. The *Intelligence* approach is to manage a city through more technical means.

The design of the Smart City needs to consider the following four aspects: 1) finding new values with innovative thinking; 2) the government is not the only investor; 3) environmental issues; and 4) to take a safe and sustainable approach because cities are facing increasing threats such as food safety, air pollution, traffic congestion, water supply, psychological changes caused by the growth of demand, and so on.

Finally I would like to summarise four points for the further combination of the Smart City and urbanisation: the integration of regional service capabilities, the integration of regional management capabilities, the integration of regional industrial innovation capabilities and the integration of regional resource protection capabilities.

Smart City is a multifaceted integration which will result in the innovation of core technology. China should definitely seize this opportunity.

ZHAN Qingming, *Vice Dean of School of Urban Design at Wuhan University, Deputy Director of Digital City Centre at Wuhan University*

Supporting Systems of Smart City

Overall there are a number of supporting systems for the development of the Smart City: a) support of legal and regulatory mechanisms and technical standards; b) support of highly instrumented platforms; c) support of technical services; and d) support of public service platforms. In practice we propose eight applications, namely smart urban management, smart medical care services, intelligent transport, smart energy, smart emergency systems, smart education and smart environment as well as smart communities.

Dianne Francombe, *Chief Executive, Bristol China Partnership, UK*

In terms of Bristol's interpretation and definition of smart cities, we have come up with the phase using innovative integrated different technologies to create smart cities and communities. The community-based aspect is really important because that is winning the hearts as well as the minds of the people who are using the smart technology.

The smart cities project across Bristol is very much a collaborative programme and that is collaborative across the city council, and across businesses and universities as well as the citizens. We have some cities, which we refer to as living labs, where the citizens are actually testing and trying the technology.

The project is really helping the city council to meet some very ambitious targets around reducing CO₂. That is the fundamental promise on which the smart technology city project is working.

Because it is collaborative it has public and private funding. The project started in 2011 and was initially funded by the UK Department of Energy and Climate Change, but now the funding is coming from a number of different sources, not just government at either city or national level.

Smart Energy:

Digital Environment Home Energy Management System seeks ways in which technology can improve domestic energy consumption:

- A test-at-home energy consumption system to improve monitoring of consumption and reduce CO₂ emissions – shows people how much energy they use and at what time of day – hopefully moving them from use in peak to off-peak times
- From the start of the project we utilised Living Labs – groups of people actively involved in the creation and evaluation of technologies they will use
- Behavioural changes often best carried out in groups or communities
- In the presence of other people with same interests and motivation and involvement encourages participation
- This route changes behaviour and creates different habits

Smart Transport

- Monitoring the traffic flows across the City upgraded system in 2008 – managed motorways
- Encourage uptake in use of electric vehicles
- Vehicle charging points in car parks across City
- Interactive map showing where they are
- SMS messaging about energy suppliers

- Services accessed through web and smart phones

Smart Data: 5G services – unique pilot and first in Europe – watch this space

Smart telecare - Emergency control centre, home sensor systems monitor health at home

We'll talk about stakeholders. Citizen consultation and decision making are key words to the city and across the UK. This is very much driving these initiatives. Bristol has an elected "mayor" and he has been in post for one year. He is independent of all the political parties so can work with the 70 city councillors who represent all the main political parties. But his decision is the final decision.

In terms of driving the initiative forward, then the stakeholders we've previously mentioned will work with consultation groups from the general public.

The decisions on implementation will be across different groups. Thus very difficult decisions will be taken at the highest level, but where it is possible to devolve decision-making these will be devolved to groups such as a neighbourhood partnership. The ideal is that speeding up the decision-making process actually enables communities to feel they are introducing projects and technologies that will best suit them...

When using education and culture to spread the messages across the whole community in Bristol, the projects and community groups are going into schools and also using other media at festivals to engage people in these topics in a more fun way. A five-year-old child can actually describe to grandparents the benefits of smart technology.

So the smart city of the future will embrace all the new innovative technologies but will also reflect back and take the best from the past. We can become smarter through technology or the use of technology and we can become more efficient through the use of that technology. Hopefully the benefit of that will be a better environment but also time to cycle somewhere rather than dash to the metro or a car.

The new organisation will also reintroduce or encompass opportunities for children in particular to learn where their food is sourced as well as where their technology is sourced... Then children won't believe that everything comes out of a hole in the wall or the freezer cabinet. Or at the click of a button.

To summarise the overall impacts: There must be high-level engagements with these issues across all of the citizens within any city or town. The growing citizen support for more radical policies will give the decision-makers the confidence to move forward. That will hopefully enable us to have faster development and progress in the future.

LIANG Guoxiang, Secretary General of the China Association of Static Traffic Guangdong Branch

Parking Solutions in China's Cities

Static traffic is a traffic management concept introduced from Europe. China has caught the world's attention as a large automobile producer and consumer but the parking problem has become a bottleneck for the industry.

As of 2013 car ownership in China had reached more than 200 million, of which over five million were in Beijing. And you will see a huge increase in car ownership in the future. In next five years the number of cars will increase by one million but the inadequacy gap with parking will reach 39%. Beijing, as well as some other provinces and cities, has formulated policies to promote the development of static traffic through the construction of parking lots. For instance, the Beijing municipal government explicitly requires that 200,000 more parking spaces should be built by 2015, each of which will get a subsidy of RMB 2,000 (approximately Euro 250).

Static traffic can be integrated with the city through the following three approaches. First, three-dimensional design of the parking lot and urban environment: Whether in a large city or a small town, a common problem with the parking lot is the failure to deal with the relationship between temporary and permanent construction. Second, the construction of intelligent parking lots and garages: There is a large disparity between the quality and use of intelligent parking lots in China and in the developed world, and I do hope that we can introduce advanced EU technologies through the China-Europa Forum. Third, management of parking lots: A user-friendly approach to

management requires adequate and effective participation of car owners in building smart cities. We believe that all technologies in the Smart City are used for the convenience of its residents, and this is the quintessence of the Smart City. Static traffic is a core component of intelligent transport. The key for intelligent management of static traffic rests with the automation of parking lot information.

Apart from social, ecological and environmental values, the development of static traffic will also generate economic values. Currently China has a parking gap of 39%, equivalent to 40 million parking spaces. According to existing urban planning the gap will reach 100 million parking spaces in the future. The construction of parking lots is expected to generate an output value of RMB 5 trillion. As a result, it will stimulate economic recovery, activate sluggish private capital, increase new jobs and save a great deal of urban land.

CAO Li Yi Ming, *Partner of JunZeJun Law Offices*

Administrative Controls Facing the Development of Smart City

I have kept thinking about one question: Why have the organisers put these two different topics - smart cities and governance model - together? I think it is because the building of smart cities needs to face a great number of administrative controls and approvals from time to time. For example, the establishment of an intelligent transport system needs approval from the Transportation Committee.

The development of smart cities mainly relies on the rational use of network resources, including pipes, optical fibres and customer premise networks (CPNs) which are closely related to the management system of the telecommunications industry in China. The system mainly consists of telecommunication regulations and their annexes, and telecommunication service categories as well as relevant rules and regulations launched by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology. Along with these regulations comes a sophisticated administrative license system.

Smart City builders and advocates will easily find that they have to get plenty of licenses from a variety of, sometimes even overlapping, governing bodies. This is a typical problem facing the development of the Smart City.

ZHOU Jie, *President of City-Hot, Hunan Province*

I am with City-Hot Wireless Communications Ltd, a high-tech enterprise based in Changsha, Hunan Province. It is dedicated to the development mode of the Smart City. I want to highlight a fact that the most critical mode of Smart City in China is how to work with the government, how to cooperate with operators and how to integrate with existing resources.

We worked with the government in building *Meixi Lake International New City*, taking a market-based approach to utilise government resources to develop infrastructure and the integrated information system. First our company, together the government, built a city-wide network, connecting more than 20 million residents. The network is the foundation of the Smart City and all applications are based on it. Second, we established a public information platform based on this network, linking comprehensive information and city resources. The Smart City has two bases: One is a digital city which is an integration of basic networks and applications generated from the use of comprehensive information, and the other is a seamless digital environment, including intelligent transport, medical care, communities and urban management, etc.

Q&A

ZHANG Youyun

Ms Dianne Francombe, could you please detail the relationship between the Smart City and children? And what is the ultimate goal of the development of Smart City?

Dianne Francombe

We can improve all of our energy consumption, we can have smart transport, we can do all of those things, but the real benefit of that technology should be to make living and life better for everyone. One of my fears is that the young people who are so really switched on to technology and believe that everything happens by clicking on a screen are losing sight of what life is really about and not connecting with nature and the food supply chain for example. So I think that everything is beautifully packaged, very interactive and whizzy through technology, but actually we must engage them with real life... So, where the food sources are actually coming from. It's a re-education process...

ZHANG Youyun

I think you shared a very important viewpoint. We need to understand the meaning behind it – the Smart City is neither to confine people to the house nor isolate them from nature and society.

Julien Woessner, Programme manager of the Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation for Human Progress (FPH)

I have a comment, a question. It concerns the matter of maintenance of all these systems from a long-term perspective. We all have a computer and after three or five years we'll have to change the computer... and all of these commissions and these complex systems. Thus it must be a big challenge to have this maintenance. What is the cost for a city to afford having this maintenance from a long-term perspective? I wanted to underline something that happens now in Europe. We have very modern city, such as for example in Spain, and we have the best architects making huge projects of cities. And now we have the economic crisis. There are a lot of projects that simply stopped and there are huge problems in maintaining the infrastructure they had begun to construct. What is taking the lead now is the population. The communities make some contributions to the public services that were provided by cities before. But cities no longer have any money and so the community takes the lead. The region that is most dynamic now is the region where the community is the more powerful. There is reflection in Europe about how to put investments to the empowerment of communities or investments in technology. It is not a contradiction but a question of priorities. Yesterday we had a really interesting talk about the values of the community and its resilience and capacities. I think this can also form something in the debate about maintenance from a long-term perspective.

Q1

What is the ownership of existing resources in a Smart City? How can we use them? In the development of the Smart City it is expected that public resources be repackaged so as to generate integrated industrial effects. For instance, the ownership of infrastructure is scattered but if we integrate the rights over operations by means of informatisation they will generate greater values. This is an issue of urban assets management.

ZHOU Jie

The issue of ownership is quite important. That is why we have worked with *JunzeJun Law Offices* to clarify issues concerning ownership. When developing the *Meixi Lake International New City* we repeatedly emphasised the need for opening all the platforms, which means that businesses, experts and scholars as well as the government can work together on a relatively fair platform. I believe this will be a core of the development of the Smart City in the future. Today's conference might deliver a positive message - open-minded attitude - to the entire industry. Before the construction and maintenance of a sustainable Smart City we need to have clear-cut ownership and an open-minded attitude.

LI Yuxiao

As a matter of fact, China and Europe are at two different stages in terms of the development of the Smart City. In Europe development of the Smart City is based on a wealth of information technologies and high integration of social resources for further improvement of citizen livelihoods and public participation, while China's government and society are adapting to this development in the face of a variety of new ideas and new technologies.

One of the most valuable things in the development of the Smart City is for more sharing of wisdom and

achievements. We are facing a systematic project because we are not only seeking high-quality urban lives at a relatively under-developed stage but also improving decision-making mechanisms, public participation and building democracy. This is key to the development of Smart City in China.

Section 3: Training and Communication

MAO Shoulong, Executive Dean of the Academy of Public Policy, Renmin University of China

Different urban governance structures will directly affect personal choices. With increasingly more people swarming to cities, cities are developing more real estate. The real-estate based governance comes into being and the taxation structure and decision-making mechanisms change accordingly. The industry-based and power-centred governance system has changed into the individual property-rights based system. In this new structure people get what they pay for. For example, the more property tax and property management fees you pay the better the services you will get.

However, we can find another urban governance pattern – not only in the form of real-estate development but also in a form of fulfilling national tasks. For instance, in China, it is the state that controls land and other public resources. Meanwhile the state is also the policy-maker which formulates a variety of indicators for real-estate development. In the past the state controlled peoples' household registration and land. Nowadays it is dominating commercial development too, which results in a GDP-oriented, real-estate based and government-centred urban governance structure.

Overall we will find that there have been two tendencies of urban governance structures in human history. One is freedom, equality and openness-based structure, and people living in such cities will have a better life. The other is a closed structure based on a hierarchy of power and a number of people will gain power but the majority will be ruled, enslaved and restricted.

We are yearning for a more ideal governance pattern which will fully realise cities' functions, and give people a better life and more freedom and greater possibilities for self-realization. The core of this structure is public finance and services. People who have access to public services have to pay. Those who pay for public services have the right to make decisions. In such a structure, the state is limited because it is only a part of public-service based governance. The city itself will open up both internally and externally.

Each of us comes to a city for a better and happier life. Sometimes we cannot choose the urban governance structure but what we can do is to study it and then try to make a change.

Lyna Srun, Deputy General Director of the CNFPT

Lifelong Learning for Local Civil Servants - Governance and Sustainable Development Training Programme

Before presenting the sustainable training programme, I should give you an overall view of French administration and the civil service.

French administration and the civil service

Employment: 5,300,000 civil servants = 20.5% of French workers.

French people are quite attached to the public service. We have a wide range of public services divided into three civil services:

- Civil service for the State (ministries, national education, public establishments)
- Civil service for public hospitals
- Local civil service (regional and local governments)

Civil servants not only have rights such as a life-long job, but also duties and common duties which are firstly a full commitment to professionalism.

From 1982 we transferred power to local authorities so that communities could have more and more competencies. Some 55,000 regional and local authorities are called “territorial collectivities” = 55,000 employers of local civil servants covering 1,800,000 employees.

All of these civil servants have worked in eight different fields: There are 234 identified professions belonging to 35 “professional families” in eight main activity fields

- Technical activities (town planning, waste management, water supply, environment protection) 45%; administrative activities 24.6%; health care, social services 13.3%; sociocultural activities 4.2 %; culture 4.1%; fire service 2.2 %; police 1.1%; sport 1.1 %.

Capacity building of local governments and missions of the CNFPT

As equality is one of the three main French republican values, we have three values, which are freedom, equality and brotherhood. Equality is very important for the French people. The CNFPT therefore has this mission to give equality to all regional and local authorities by training and providing competent civil servants.

- A national institution created in 1984 to train all local government civil servants: vocational training as a public service
- Budget: 1% of local government wage bills (€362 million) => average of 1.4 days’ training / civil servant / year
- 900,000 civil servants trained every year (50% of all employees)

Main missions of the CNFPT: local authority needs; society/state needs

- Professional / technical skills
- Civil service duties
- Career exams preparation
- Management skills

Some courses in the sustainable development training programme designed by CNFPT: public service delivery mode

Public-run, public-private-partnership or contract with private companies:

- Senior managers: director-general / director of technical services: How to choose, how to guarantee efficiency; quality and the right cost?
- Private companies: How to write and evaluate a contract introducing sustainable development criteria
- Public-run: Specific programme for each public service:
 - Water supply
 - Waste management

Governance and sustainable development training programme

- Senior Managers:
Public policies design and implementation: Urbanisation, transport, building, housing, inclusiveness, etc.
- All managers:
Management capacity building: Project management development, developing ethical behaviour, team building, participative management, etc.

- All employees:

Vocational technical skills training: Passive buildings construction, gardening without chemicals, cooking with local products, etc.

Manager know-how: Building confidence and responsibility

- Share information and give sense to action
- Create spaces for exchanges and innovation
- Take employee suggestions, give responsibilities
- Develop employee skills
- Encourage and congratulate
- Give right to make mistakes
- Do not pass on stress
- Look at facts, analyse situations
- Implement process of decisions creating confidence and empowerment
- Decide and explain decisions, decide priorities
- Implement changes
- Take advantage of opportunities
- Manage as would like to be managed
- More demanding on oneself than on employees
- Is committed, does not give priority to career
- Has team spirit
- Is benevolent
- Is curious and open-minded

Our mission is increasingly not only managing and learning action, but also developing a learning environment.

In order to achieve that, we have to enhance self-education and develop collaboration and coproduction of knowledge.

I will conclude with the smart city, and it's a proposal for a definition of a smart city: A smart city is a city with very smart people.

A community of learners and practices is not only a website, a directory, case studies... It is a group which interacts, learns together, builds relationships, and thus develops a sense of community and mutual commitment.

***ZHANG Youyun**, Member of the China Economic and Social Council, Vice Chairwoman of the China Association of Employment Promotion, Member of the Global Agenda Council on Employment of the World Economic Forum, and Deputy Director of the CIUDSRC*

The Essence and Objectives of Smart City

First of all, what does SMART mean in Smart City? I have heard of SMART POWER and SMART GROWTH (in Europe

2020). We have Chinese translations for these words but I do not think they are accurate enough. Different people and different countries at different stages of development interpret the word from different perspectives. Today's discussion is helpful for our understanding of SMART. It is a good start.

We should look at Smart City from a broader perspective. Smart City is an open and developing concept. Chinese government officials should find out what Smart City is before publicising it to the general public.

Second, no matter how developed Smart City is, it should always be people-oriented. The starting point and ultimate goal for Smart City is to properly handle two relationships: the relationship between mankind and nature, and that between people.

Third, Smart City is a brand new concept so we have to explore it in practice and take it into account in the framework of overall economic and social development. As an open and systemic project, it is far beyond technical issues.

Fourth, we should have foresight. The static traffic case indicated that the future market for car production and consumption would be in China but I think it is inadequate. The transformation of the industry should prospectively take place in China too. Not long ago I visited Denmark and was very impressed by their environment. About 38% of its people travel by bicycle. I saw that some people from foreign affairs cycled with their trouser legs clipped. The clips were taken off when they arrived at the event, and this would make no difference at all. Currently Chinese people still favour cars. We have to change that.

Finally, we should cultivate sustainable ability and enhance training for government officials. In addition, publicity, advocacy and training should be combined together.

Q&A

CAI Wenfang

Ms Dianne Francombe shared with us a very impressive smart city and community, but I feel that there is an extremely large gap between China and Europe. Europe is much more concerned about people. Professor Mao, I am wondering if China has the possibility of catching up with Europe.

MAO Shoulong

Technically there are many prospects for China to catch up with western developed countries, but China might encounter more challenges to the governance structure. Smart City is changing our lives. Our social circle and way of socialisation have changed a lot. With the penetration of social networking services, such as Facebook and We-chat, in our daily lives, a new form of society is gradually developing with equality and freedom as its criterion. This has posed a great challenge to the hierarchy-based governance structure in China.

DIANNE FRANCOMBE

I would like to add to that. The main reason I concentrated on talking about the people aspects is because the technical aspects are more than well covered, so I was trying to find a complementary view in one sense. It wouldn't be part of what I was going to say anyway, because in the UK it is really important that the citizens in the city are behind the initiatives because there is competition in terms of spending power, how much the city has to spend on initiatives, and if the people don't like the initiative, they can vote with their feet and ask the mayor. It's a very powerful system when the mayor knows that if the people vote against him he will lose his position.

Audience

Smart City differs from Intelligent City. The latter concept emphasises the technical aspect while the former highlights both technical and cultural aspects. We should draw a distinction between the two concepts.

LI Yuxiao

The most critical issue is whether we are prepared to have a new governance model. Essentially Internet has changed our lives, the lives of all mankind. The physical space and virtual space of our lives are integrated. IT has broken the limits of time and space. The free flow of information among people results in new lifestyles and new ways of behaviour as well as new relationships between people, which will inevitably generate new governance structure.

I feel that we are a bit too impatient in today's discussion. It seems that we have no time to adapt to the changes and to train people to face such an environment. We want to change the future by technology but have little control of science and technology. We need to take into account the question of whether a governance mechanism designed against such a backdrop would help achieve our goals. I approve of the idea that the use of technologies should be for a better life.

ZHANG Youyun

It is important to make the best of technologies, but don't overdo it.

LI Yuxiao

I agree with you. Only when we are able to harness technologies can we do better. The development of urbanisation is actually a process of trial and error. We need to try to find the way that works best for us.

Conclusion

LI Yuxiao

Urban governance is oriented towards a rapidly developing society and growing dimensional demands from all levels of society. It requires the public and private sectors to provide sufficient public products while constantly adapting to changes. It is not only the management of a digital network, but an all-round design for the various aspects of society, including the necessities of life, education, health, employment, culture and public participation, etc. In the last two days we touched upon conceptual designs and experiences, and lessons in practice, and have reached the following consensus:

The differences between EU and China urbanisation are obvious. For China, the world's largest developing country, urbanisation is mainly about tackling issues such as urban infrastructure construction. There is still a large gap between China and the EU in adaptation to an innovative and sustainable institution, construction of the rule of law to protect citizen rights and interest, market regulation and public participation in the public policy-making process. In contrast, European countries are building on a well-developed infrastructure to develop a more diverse and hospitable environment which can meet multiple individual needs. The core objective of European urbanisation is to provide urban residents with more liveable and favourable surroundings for living, entertainment and growing-up. It is crucial to have the engagement of urban residents in urbanisation, including the decision-making process and construction itself.

China is advancing in urbanisation. A better life and greater well-being for the people is the basic goal of governance. The concept of sustainable development should not only be delivered to governments but to society as a whole. In addition we should seek effective training methods in the urbanisation process to develop qualified citizens and appropriate institutions. We need to create a more promising future for the coming generations.

Workshop 5: Regional development and cooperation

Session 1: European Regional Development and Experience-Presentation of Cases and Analyses

Moderator: Hubert Julien-Lafferrière, Associate Professor of the IEP, Lyon, France, Vice President of Grand Lyon

Our cities, cities in Europe and in China, face the same challenges of building sustainable cities while our cities are growing. We know that in 2030 urban areas will cluster more than 60% of the world's population. But we not only face this issue of population growth in our cities but also what we called the urban swollen. The challenges that the international community is facing today: For example, when you look at what we call the sustainable development goals which were adopted by the international community, you realise quickly that our cities are at the centre of today's problems while also being part of the solutions. We address this question of energy, the question of environment or basic services that are owed to the citizens or social cohesions. It is quite accurate to say that cities cooperate to share their practices and also to share their failures in their public policy addressing these issues...

Eduardo Guglielmetti, Network and project manager of the ENTP

I would like to introduce an overview of the regional policy of the European Union.

What is important to note is that urbanisation has not been one of the competencies of the European Union since the beginning, and the regional policies are among the shared competences. The European Union's steps over the next years are called Europe 2020. This is a new strategy to promote smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. The cohesion policy provides the necessary investment framework for the rich objectives of Europe 2020. Cohesion policy is about economic cohesion, social cohesion and territorial cohesion, which is the basis of the regional policy.

The regional policy has two funds. The most important is the European Regional Development Fund. So what is the regional policy? It is an investment policy - investment to support the delivery of the strategy. But it is also the expression of EU solidarity with the less developed regions of Europe to overcome the disparities. The budget of the regional policy is the most important of the entire European Union budget. In the 2007-2013 period, the EU invested more than 300 billion euros.

Here you can see a map showing the economic differences between European regions and which shows you more or less where most of the money of the regional policy goes to help those regions to catch up with the others. For example, the green refurbishment of a church being turned into a meeting point and another European project to promote the building of passive houses in European cities.

But we are also talking about social cohesion. For example, this was a meeting we had in the framework of our project for the inclusion of minority groups such as Romans. For the next social fund, the priorities will be employment, social inclusion, education and efficient public administration.

The next objective of the Regional Development fund: That is a list of topics on which the funds will be concentrated. This concentration is one of the philosophies of the use of the regional funds. All the topics are priorities in which the most developed regions of Europe will have an obligation to spend most of the money: innovation, competitiveness and energy efficiency. Here comes the big new thing - the introduction explicitly of the topic of the urban development in the European Regional Policy.

The European Union has this budget for the Regional Policy. In each member state of the European Union, each region is asked to write an operational programme in order to decide where this money goes on the territory. So there is an agreement between the European Union, the member state level and the region about the use of the money.

A new thing is that from the next programming period, from 2014 to 2020, a part of this money will be mandatorily spent on urban development measures for cities. This money is available at a regional level, and many different kind of organisations can apply to get this money. The European Union provides this money, the region establishes the main priorities and organisations, cities, city departments, agencies and other actors can apply for this money through competitive projects.

To conclude, there are many possibilities for European actors to cooperate among themselves in order to improve regional or urban development. But if you want to do the same with actors outside Europe it becomes a little more complicated as it goes beyond the scope of the regional policy and falls under development cooperation policy. That is why the European Union, to simplify cooperation on precise topics such as urbanisation, drafted memorandums of understanding with countries like China, Russia and Brazil.

ZHANG Renhan, Strategy Counsellor on Regional Economic Development

Traditional Rural Culture Preservation in China's Urbanisation

Case 1: Preservation of Traditional Villages at Liannan Yao Autonomous County

In the north of Guangdong Province is the Liannan Yao Autonomous County. Over 100,000 Yao people have lived in the mountains for thousands of years, forming a group of mountain villages where nearly a thousand Yao households are connected with one another. In recent years they have all moved down to the foot of the mountains for a better life, leaving their previous Yao villages with a history of thousands of years vacant. This is thought provoking: First, the traditional rural culture of the Yao nationality may stop developing; the development of an ethnic rural culture may cease. Second, can this ethnic group fit in well with the mainstream of modern Chinese urbanization after coming from the mountaintop to the foothills to enjoy modern living conditions?

Case 2: Preservation and Renovation of Traditional Residential Buildings in Zhongshan City

This case concerns the former residence of Mr Sun Yat-sen, located in a village of Zhongshan City in the southern Guangdong. It is a beautiful typical southern waterside village in the Pearl River Delta-style and its residential buildings are well preserved, while 80% of the population has migrated. The local government plans to renovate and restore its traditional appearance. Does its vitality still exist if we focus only on restoring its traditional appearance? Can the purpose of protection be realised if it is preserved in such a static way as a first-class national museum? What influences will urbanisation have on the preservation of traditional villages in South China and on their future state? Can the former residence of Mr Sun Yat-sen show the features of the residential buildings in villages of South China in a lively and invigorating way?

SUN Bo, Deputy Secretary General of the People's Government of Maoming City, Guangdong Province

Guided by the reform and opening-up policy, China developed rapidly over the past 30 years. This year the Third Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee was themed with comprehensively deepening reform and opening-up, which would be further implemented in the five or 10 years to come. Guangdong, as a pioneering province implementing this policy over the past 30 years, has been exerting an effect on China and even the world. It has paid much attention to the cooperation between Guangdong and the EU and is also very willing to do so. At present Guangdong has been mainly working on balancing the development in

its eastern, western and northern parts. This year Guangdong introduced three major policies on the communications infrastructure construction, central downtown area-expanding mechanism and industrial parks output and efficiency improvement.

XIAO Daibo, Associate Professor of Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, City University of Macao

Hengqin's role in the cooperation between Zhuhai, Hong Kong and Macau, and the prospect of the cooperation in Pan-Pearl River Delta

By developing Hengqin, Guangdong is trying to find a new mode for the development of the Pearl River Delta, and the development of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau, and to provide a platform for regional cooperation with the aim of enhancing its regional economy and its core competitiveness. The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge connects Zhuhai, Hong Kong and Macau, where institutional, administrative and cultural differences exist. What effect such differences will bring forth is a question to be considered. From the perspective of marketing, positioning is important, which brings about differentiated industries. In the course of urbanisation, the development of comprehensive industries, the living-friendly urbanisation and regional development should be balanced, which requires the cities involved to employ their local resources, whether natural resources or otherwise, to accelerate development based on their own conditions so as to enhance their core competitiveness. The current policies, industries and the whole city layout should be taken into consideration when cooperation in Hengqin is promoted. Marketing can exert positive effects on city development by strengthening its brand building and publicising its image with corresponding activities such as the International Circus Festival, which is a very good example.

CHEN Guang, Dean of the Public Management Faculty, Southwest Jiaotong University

"The Public Services, Policy Governance and Sustainable Business Model of Green Cities: A Study on the Cooperation between China and Europe"

My report is composed of four parts: first, the questions; second, the analytical framework; third, crucial problems to be solved; and fourth, cooperation and development.

China is witnessing a very important transformation with rapid development and contradictions, which is recognised by the world. On the one hand it is developing very rapidly but on the other, the differentiated quality of public services is obviously felt.

What exactly is the status quo of public services in China? I have conducted a nation-wide survey on municipal administration which focused on people's satisfaction with public services, or people's perception of the degree of match between their expectations and their degree of satisfaction with the public services they have received. In general the quality and level of public services in China can barely meet the growing demand of people for public services. The fact is that there is considerable development in basic public services; the development of safeguards and development-oriented public services, however, is still at a low level. Moreover there is an apparent contradiction between supply and demand, and a severe lack of equity in public services.

I think that currently the major contradiction in China is the conflict between the growing demand of people for public goods and services and the deficiency of public goods and the imbalanced development of public services. Hence establishing the analytical framework of public services is of vital importance, in which the providers, the investors, the pricing and the effect evaluation of services are included.

My research project now in progress is to answer the following two questions: First, aside from the mode of operation management, how do we link the technical system to the public services system, and how do we

achieve the balance between the public attribute of public goods and public services within technical constraints and the commercial model, if we want to make green public goods possible? Second, is it possible to carry out cooperation in technologies, commercial modes and governments between China and Europe to provide better green public services for green cities?

Different from traditional public services, the public services mechanism of green cities is rich in content. For example, instead of having two attributes, green public goods have three attributes, which are supposed to be accessible to each of the citizens and can improve efficiency through the business mode. But is this mode or service sustainable?

My work in the early stages is to find one city in China and three cities in Europe so that I can make a comparative study to find a possible way of sustainable development for cities in the following four major areas: energy, transportation, water supplies and waste disposal. Then a framework with three aspects needs to be constructed: First is demand, namely proper subjects should be chosen. Second is to settle the service contents, criteria, quality and modes. Third is to find out the influence of technological innovation and funds, operational modes and government policies upon public services systems.

Cooperation in urbanisation including public services can be carried out between China and Europe. Two major perspectives should be taken into consideration. On the one hand the expansion of urbanisation in China is at its peak which is very critical. It has an annual increase of 1% or more in its urbanisation rate. It is now a golden age for China's urbanisation and the improvement of public services systems. China should try its best to establish a reasonable public services system by learning from the good experiences of foreign countries in order to avoid unnecessary detours. The cooperation is absolutely a good opportunity not only for China and Europe but also for the world. What lessons or support could Europe give to China's urbanisation? There are three aspects - service technology, criteria and management operation - which can provide green opportunities for China from the West, especially Europe.

Gerhard Stahl, Secretary General, the Committee of the Regions, EU

My question is for Professor Chen Guan. I found it very interesting that you are an analyst concerned with the need for more social services, for more public services. What you are also touched on is how to get the financing for those public services. And then you come to debate what we also have precisely at this moment in Europe. The European Commission has criticised Germany about its export-led industrial business model. Because if you have an export-led model it means you do have not enough investment for internal development. So Germany was criticized on the ground that it should do more for internal development. Inside Germany you now have a debate over there being not enough investment for public services, whether modern public transport or whether other public services such as, for example, education. Therefore, what you presented was something of the same picture, because if you invest more in public services you have to question where the country's investment goes? Again, I found a very similar situation with a debate in Europe, at least with some of the European countries. Europe is so diversified and there are other countries where this is not an issue, but specifically for Germany it is precisely this question: Whether one should not invest more in public services at the expense of using the investment in exports...?

Chen Guang, Dean of the Public Management Faculty, Southwest Jiaotong University

What are the financial resources for the improvement of public services? First, resources come from government investment most of which has been used in infrastructure construction since 2008. Second, it adopts the PPP mode used by Europe; namely, it makes individual enterprises and other organisations involved in public service so that it can raise funds. The cooperation itself is to raise money. Third, it adopts the mode of government-purchasing brought forth by the Third Plenary Session, namely the government sets criteria and requirements and entrusts production, supervision and quality control to qualified enterprises.

Fourth, is through financial reform. Small and medium sized banks would be engaged in raising funds if they meet related requirements, which is actually a way of utilising private capital to fill the gap. China has a wide range of rural areas and a large number of farmers and it is necessary to transform such demand into potential productivity. I think the investment in public services would not influence China's foreign trade... Actually, there is huge domestic demand for public services investment. Thus, top priority should be given to purchasing capacity, then to corresponding social security and then to changes of behaviour, and after that the incomes can become actual purchasing capacity and demand.

XIAO Daibo, Associate Professor of Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, City University of Macao

When the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge is launched an example of regional cooperation will be set in the Pan-Pearl River Delta and will be set in part of Hengqin which is mainland China. Communication and coordination will be conducted by Hong Kong and Zhuhai.

CHEN Guang, Dean of the Public Management Faculty, Southwest Jiaotong University

Different political and social systems indeed exist in those regions and cities. But two other points are more important. First, is that their market-oriented economy systems are moving towards convergence, which is certain. Second, the geographical arrangement promises a possible economic entity naturally. The most important thing about the cooperation between cities including cooperation in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau region is that their interests should be consistent, or it won't be realised. Every party has its own interests, so what decision should be made if their interests are inconsistent? In China there are several decision-making modes. One is that the government can set negotiations to get mutual understanding. The other is that there is a non-governmental forum in the Pearl River Delta region and in the Pan-Pearl River Delta region respectively, both participated in by many enterprises and social organisations. If one has to answer who is to make the decision, the answer is that parties whose interests are involved will negotiate first and then it is finally made by the market.

SHEN Qianqian, Project Manager CITEGO (in charge of the Chinese part), FPH

The Geneva metropolitan area is a large urban planning project of inter-border cooperation, which centralises more than 80% of jobs, while outside the area are many residential buildings in France. Such functional imbalance becomes a big problem in metropolitan area planning. So since 2005 when they started this metropolitan area planning project, the key question has been as to who acts as the decision-maker. The Geneva metropolitan area, the international image of Geneva and its system of flexible working hours are far superior to those of France. The French government considers it hard to adapt to the development of Geneva, since it mainly functions as the residential area. This difference is actually the core problem. Thus, to facilitate all enterprises settling down in both France and Switzerland, a contract is signed between them, stipulating that the people in this region can freely commute between the two countries. I have interviewed French municipal leaders. They told me there were slight differences in the hardware of the two countries in this region near the border, but enterprises in Switzerland are more attractive, as is its image.

Session 2: Cooperation and Opportunities between Europe and China on Urbanisation

SUN Bo, Deputy Secretary General of the People's Government of Maoming City, Guangdong Province

Full Attention Should Be Paid to Equity and Efficiency of Urbanisation in the Next 30 Years

I would like to start from two key words: one is equity and the other is efficiency. Over the past 30-plus years China has undergone earth-shaking changes in cities and towns and, of course, many problems were exposed. I think equity includes four aspects:

The first is intergenerational equity. China's rapid economic growth over the past 30 years is at the expense of the consumption of resources and environmental deterioration. Therefore we must learn from the EU and other developed countries how to utilise resources and optimise every decision. Having been deeply aware of those problems, the Chinese government proposed the transformation of economic development mode, and meanwhile reformed the cadre evaluation system, no longer taking GDP as the main assessment indicator.

The second is equity between the government and citizens. In China the government undertakes a large number of public matters. Despite the continuous progress of our society and systems, the public participation level is not very high in many decision-making processes. In the urbanisation process, many needs of citizens are ignored. Meanwhile there are defects in education, public health and social security. As far as I know, expenditure on China's public health accounts for about 5% of GDP. Fortunately the Chinese government attaches great importance to the people-oriented policy, taking the people as the core of new-type urbanisation over the next 30 years. In the process of urban planning every step is participated in by the public.

The third is equity between city dwellers and rural residents. In the process of reform and opening up, and economic growth in China, compared with urban residents much less attention is paid to the needs of rural residents. Institutional discrimination, such as the dual household registration management system, brings about the phenomenon of Chinese migrant workers migrating like birds. In terms of public services, rural residents have less access to those services than their urban counterparts. The Chinese government attaches great importance to this issue, as it determines the foundation of national stability. In the past the government proposed the New Rural Reconstruction and gave people equal access to public services. Now it vigorously promotes the new-type urbanisation, aiming to help 400 million farmers become urban residents with dignity. The Third Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee has had the establishment of a unified urban land market and the protection and expansion of farmers' property rights written into its programme document. It is very unfair for rural residents in China as they are not allowed to mortgage or transfer their own real estate, homestead and contracted land.

The fourth is equity between state-owned enterprises and private enterprises. In the past many resources were monopolised by state-owned enterprises in China, but now the government is gradually breaking the monopoly. In addition, state-owned enterprises have privileges over private enterprises in their developing process. All of these will gradually be changed in the future.

The above four equities should be paid special attention to in China's urbanisation process in the future and should be solved first.

Next, let's talk about efficiency. This can be analysed from two aspects:

The first is total factor productivity. This contributed more than 5% to national economic development in the

1980s. Currently, China's total factor productivity is lower than that of other developed countries. China's rapid growth depends more on the input of factors. Reduction in the demographic dividend will bring about a decline in savings as well as poor investment. Emphasising only factor inputs and investment may bring about high inflation. Therefore China should pay more attention to how to improve total factor productivity instead of relying on factor inputs. In the past China was more concerned with "Made in China" and ignored innovation. So in the process of development in the future the Chinese government will attach great importance to the research and development of technology and the protection of intellectual property rights.

The second is how to deal with the relationship between the government and the market. Excessive intervention of governments at all levels does exist in microeconomics and the market. To some extent, too much government intervention may bring about improvement of efficiency, but for the whole of society may lead to resource misallocation.

According to the research results of an overseas professor, resource misallocation by the Chinese government influenced 2% of China's overall GDP. So the Chinese government attaches great importance to the transformation of government functions. The State Council and governments at all levels will take streamlining administration and delegating power to the lower levels as the key point of this round of administrative approval system reform. Foreign countries take non-governmental organisations, community groups and guilds very seriously, while China saw their high-speed development only in recent years. Forums were mainly held by government in 2012 and then turned semi-governmental later. This forum is mainly held by non-governmental organisations this time, with successful results as well, which indicates the great strength of non-governmental organisations.

Then how shall we solve the problem of equity and efficiency? The Chinese government has given the answer. But we also need international support, such as the support of the EU. Both in the past 30 years and the next 30 years, China attached and will attach great importance to reform and opening up. Reform is the best way to avoid revolution. In the past Comrade Deng Xiaoping, China's chief architect, emphasised "crossing the river by feeling the stones". But now we have entered deep water and we may not feel as many stones. So we need to learn from foreign experience and develop self-innovation.

China is reforming the land system, fiscal and taxation system, financial system and household registration system from top to bottom. The process of those reforms contains many business opportunities. But the process is full of difficulties. Taking land system reform as an example, I think that despite all kinds of problems in the land system it is undeniable that it was the main driving force of dramatic changes in Chinese cities in the past 30 years. Under China's current fiscal and taxation system, most funds of local governments for urban construction come from land finance and revenues that land generates. On average about half or two-thirds of urban construction funds come from land finance. The central government checked and audited the local debts of the whole country last year, and found that more than half of the repayments depend on land revenue. The above data shows that land system reform is a systematic project, and we should consider how to match property rights, how local governments can get funding for urban construction and livelihood security, and shouldn't just consider land system reform and ignore refining other related systems.

Cooperation with the EU Is Much Expected in China's Urbanisation

Opening-up always goes along with reform. The Chinese government is very high-profile about this, which is the accumulation of historical experience. Opening-up involves many aspects, such as respect for international rules. China needs to communicate with the EU and developed countries regarding its urbanisation in particular.

We need some international systems and rules to supplement and resolve the equity and efficiency issues that I mentioned earlier. In the process of urbanisation, the urban construction mode also needs to draw on some advanced concepts, including urban construction and management. Meanwhile, opening up also

means opening up to international capital and international markets.

I want to remind some EU leaders and experts that in the process of promoting urbanisation there are many business opportunities, which bring far more benefits than simple trade contacts. I hope this message can be delivered to European companies.

According to some data a farmer needs a basic budget of 120,000 yuan to move to and live in a city, and there are 400 million farmers in China with 200 million farmers in the cities (migrant workers) now, and the other 200 million expected to move into the cities, which will bring 40-50 trillion in spending. Chinese governments at all levels are welcoming and expecting to introduce the EU's advanced ideas and urban construction experience.

Last, I want to say that our cooperation with the EU includes but is not limited to the comprehensive operations of cities. There is also cooperation in areas of research and consultation, including environmental protection, low-carbon urban construction, urbanisation patterns, urban investment and financing, urban planning, urban management, smart city construction and others. We welcome cooperation with the EU and European enterprises in all of these areas.

Pierre Calame, President of the China-Europa Forum Foundation, President of the Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation for Human Progress (FPH)

We are entering into a new area of cooperation and are moving to a new completely different stage where we are facing together the unsustainable situation of our cities and of our economy. So we are no longer in a tutor-pupil relationship but on an equal footing in China and Europe in the face of common challenges. We have to address all the different dimensions and all the different stakeholders. And this simple fact changes the nature of the tools of cooperation. You cannot expect that a top-down approach of an agreement between states and different cities will be able to address these different dimensions and different stakeholders.

Then you have to address three questions to face these multiple dimensions and multiple stakeholders: What should be change? What is the context of the relationships between Europe and China in which these changes take place? What are the practical tools of change?

First, what else could be changed? The primary remark, the lesson, is driven from different international cities over the last 20 years. It is not a technical problem. You cannot expect to solve problems by just jumping ahead in technical innovation. It goes nowhere. Although technical innovation remains useful, technical knowledge transfer is easiest and it is going on now. They don't need any new devices or partnership between enterprises... It is going very far. So first we have to address the theoretical change, the change as a mindset. What about the change in governments, the change of the vision of the world, the change of the relationships between the stakeholders, the change in the relationship with technologies, for example? We need to build complete partnerships which are a complement to the theoretical transformations. And for that, we need to mobilise expertise, and we need to have a win-win partner strategy in co-investments.

The second one is the context in which the cooperation takes place from the European situation. Two elements which are key if you want to talk completely about cooperation. The first is the crisis of public finances in Europe. There is no more public money. The second is the imbalance, commercial imbalance, in exchanges between Guangdong and European countries. So we have to look at our cooperation, cooperation between equals and not cooperation between a help offer from a developed country to an underdeveloped country.

So let's go to the third point of concrete ways to address the need for theoretical changes, mindset changes and practical cooperation. I see three concrete tools to meet your expectations, which are also ours.

1) The tool which the China- Europa forum represents. This is a space for a dialogue between societies with

a decentralised process in order to be able to have dialogue on a great number of issues, which is key to getting over big speeches which go nowhere. We have experience of small workshops dealing with whatever issue. What are we going to do with the integration of migrants, the migrants' definition, or public services, integrated services, or about the recycling of water, or social cohesion, or whatever? And we found great interest also by Europeans on the European part to discuss each of these issues in a face-to-face dialogue.

- 2) The second concrete tool is if you want to develop the issues and learn from each other. Then, we need a database of case studies, because it is complementary to dialogues. The great advantage of Europe is our own diversity. If you look at the issue of, for example, housing in social cohesion you will find completely different answers in Europe. And this is useful to draw your own teaching. So we have to create these databases to discuss and to build this process and bring your own expertise and knowledge and experiences to enrich the dialogue.
- 3) The third issue is how to facilitate combined partnership in different dimensions and with different actors. There we have to be innovative. No top-down approach will work. It goes nowhere. So we need to imagine a kind of organic process of regulation of coordination of different partnerships.

ZHANG Renhan, Strategy Counsellor on Regional Economic Development

I want to ask a small question. As mentioned there are two key points in the background of cooperation with Europe, one of which is that there has been no more public financing in Europe since the European public financing crisis. Can you share your opinions regarding this?

Gerhard Stahl, Secretary General, the Committee of the Regions, EU

I think it might be helpful as an announcer of a different debate to initiate the invitation to have additional engagement of European actors and the description by Pierre about some of the situations in the financing of public authorities to come back to some simple facts... All together, Europe is still investing more outside. If you look to external capital exports you see that Europe is still exporting capital outside and it is investing very much in the United States, besides other countries. Based on common understanding and based on a proper framework for investment, it make sense to ask European investors not to go to the United States only, but also to develop on an equal basis investments in China. And I think this cooperation of developing a common understanding of how our societies functioned could help to get private investment from European partners. Now, for example, if you look to Germany, if you look to the Netherlands, if you look to Norway, they invest far more capital in China. You have reduced your capital investment outside in the latest figures where there are still European capital investments going outside to the United States. So why not offer a common understanding about the sustainable development of legal structures and more business opportunities also in China.

Hubert Julien-Laferrière, Associate Professor of the IEP, Lyon, France, Vice President of Grand Lyon

Indeed, our cities today are at the centre of the problem but they are also part of the solution. I was wondering something because, for instance, the city of Lyon is twinned with the city of Guangzhou. Actually, we don't work through a lot of these organisation issues. And when I see the twinings that we have with for instance North African cities, or West African cities and their transition today, we share organisation and the stability of our cities at the heart of cooperation. When I see a twinning between cities, it's not that I don't mention cooperation between civil servants. One day one mayor told me what we have been doing for 10 years in our cooperation, but you have to help to create add value in my city. And so when a mayor speaks with companies of his territory and says we have a twinning with this city there is a great opportunity for

cooperation. We have a framework under which we can speak to the mayor and he will mobilise the Chamber of Commerce, and he will mobilise the economic sector and territory. We can organise meetings there. It is easier for the entrepreneurs to say, OK maybe there is an opportunity. Because as Pierre said, there is always financial risk in going somewhere, losing time, maybe not finding the opportunity for cooperation, so it's the local government which should create this framework to ensure that the cooperation will be thoughtful.

WANG Lin, Director of the Enterprise Culture Research Centre, the Business School of Central South University

China's Urbanisation Will Bring Huge Business Opportunities

There is a feature in China. As long as the government deregulates market forces will give a strong impetus to China's development. I think the business opportunities will mainly include the following 10 aspects:

The first is planning. China's experience of urban-rural integration planning is insufficient. In this aspect we want very much to be able to get help and support from our European partners.

The second is infrastructure. Now we are learning the lessons drawn from the previous infrastructure construction. For instance, we paid insufficient attention to public transport, so in the future we will reconsider it.

The third is the land transfer. The Third Plenary Session has planned to gradually release the wealth of rural areas, farmers and agriculture, by boosting land transfer, mortgage and even land sale. Therefore we expect the Chinese countryside will be a wealth fountain in the future, and in the future farmers will no longer be poor even when they have land, but rather, a lot of wealth will pour into the countryside.

The fourth is guiding industry development. The core of urbanisation that we talk about is human urbanisation, which needs financial resources and foundation first, and for farmers to become citizens we need to consider in what sector of industry they will be engaged in the city.

The fifth is eco-friendly industry. A very important aspect of China's future urbanisation is eco-friendly construction. The old and mistaken model of industry development will not be repeated. Therefore I fully agree with Mr Calame that China and Europe can learn from each other in the new urbanisation construction. For example, Broad Group with which I serve as a consultant, attaches great importance to sustainable construction and 90% of our building materials are five times more efficient in energy saving. 99% of them can filter MP2.5 and are earthquake resistant to magnitude nine. According to the current patent retrieval and related technology retrieval in the world, it is in the lead.

The sixth is interest rates. European funds can be introduced into China for construction, and China's asset or capital interest was in control in the past. It is proposed in the Third Plenary Session that the market plays a decisive role, and China's interest rate will be regulated and controlled by the market in the future. China's artificially lowered interest rates will be liberalised in the future which will bring big profits after European partners bring funds in.

The seventh is the service industry.

The eighth is the manufacturing industry. After urbanisation the urban population increases and the increase of opportunities in the service industry is inevitable. Thanks to the improvement of urban infrastructure, the manufacturing industry will also generate new opportunities.

The ninth is the agency industry, meaning more new types of services with regard to education, training, law and consultation business and so on.

The tenth is that Hunan is an important province in Central China now, and we hope to get support and help

from European partners in the process of urbanisation in Hunan.

BAO Wei, President of Sino-France Economic Co-operation Zone

We invested in an industrial park in the French Region Centre, which is China's first industrial park set in a developed country, reflecting the fact that the strategy of Chinese enterprises in going out is no longer an individual act but more relies on a platform.

We can help Chinese enterprises to expand overseas, and we also welcome enterprises of other countries in Europe and America to the park. This park is positioned as an international business service platform, evolved with the education industry, a tax-free logistics park, a research and development platform and a Sino-French Industrial Park. Finally, we hope that Sino-France Economic Co-operation Zone can interact more with domestic local governments and provide the impetus to enterprises that want to go out.

Session 3: European Prospects and Experiences in the Pearl River Delta Region

YAN Jun, Senior Partner of JunZeJun Law Offices

Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Region Hoping to Learn from Experience of European Integration

The cooperation within the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau region is a miniature version of Sino-European cooperation since Hong Kong and Macau have deep-rooted historical relations with the UK and Portugal respectively. A lot of problems existing in the cooperation in this region can find answers in our cooperation with the EU. We are now conducting research on the transport policy of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge. The research is about how to coordinate the operation and the government policies by the three regions with different legal systems after the bridge connecting Hong Kong, Macau and Zhuhai is completed, in order to help the bridge work better. While we are studying the transport policy, 29 government departments from the three regions have engaged in a number of studies and discussions, finding that the coordination of laws and institutions of the three regions is as difficult as that of three countries. Actually the cooperation in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau region had already begun before the return of Hong Kong and Macau. After Hong Kong and Macau returned to China, the Chinese Central Government and the three regions' governments together promoted economic cooperation and development in the regions. Developing a closer trade and economic relation in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau region is actually focusing on economic cooperation in that region.

Qianhai New Area of Shenzhen, Hengqin New Area of Zhuhai and Nansha New Area of Guangzhou are all focusing on the cooperation of the three regions. As I am deeply engaged in the projects of these three development zones, I feel the differences of the regulations and laws. In my opinion, since the EU brings together countries with different laws and regulation and forms a supranational union, its experience in realising a united and integrated law system and institution is important to the integration in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau region.

This urbanisation forum held in Guangzhou would be an opportunity for cooperation in the delta between Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau, as well as cooperation under three different legal systems and settlement of law-related issues among different regions. I hope the Guangzhou Forum will continue to be held over the next 10 years or even longer in order to promote economic cooperation between China and the EU, and in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau region.

CHEN Hantao, Chairman of the Hengqin Star Art & Culture Creative Park Co.,Ltd

When we studied cooperation in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau region we once used the organisations of the EU as reference. Today the cooperation in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau region has set a model for international and regional cooperation in some instances. It is a supplement to the EU's economic system.

During the Third Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee, the subject was raised that the development scale of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau region should be enlarged. The State Council has already approved three new areas in the special economic zones of Guangdong, which are Qianhai, Nansha and Hengqin New Areas. They are mainly characterised by policy innovations. Take corporate income tax for example. In mainland China the corporate income tax rate is 25%. As a special area in the special economic zone, Hengqin New Area enjoys a tax rate of 15% stipulated by the Chinese government. Of course only enterprises meeting related requirements enjoy this tax rate. Still, there are policy risks due to the continuity and swinging of the policies in mainland China.

In the future, or near future, the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Free Trade Zone will draw much attention. Via this forum I hope we have the honour of inviting European enterprises to visit the new areas in the special economic zones.

LIN Xianyang, Associate Professor of the Guangdong Provincial Situation Research Centre, Guangdong Provincial Party School

First, in the development of China's Two Oriented Society (resources saving and environmentally friendly) urbanisation will utilise four resources (lands, minerals, water and energy). In the domain of water and energy resource management, European experiences are of great value and are important to China's urbanisation, especially in technology, funds, management, human resources and other aspects.

Second is cases on cooperation in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Region or between China and the EU need breakthrough.

In the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau region, the example of cooperation can start with two fields, which are the education industry and the culture industry. Since the Pearl River Delta is an international region, international cooperation there should be based on international culture and education. In order to promote international or inter-regional cooperation in Guangdong Province or the Pearl River Delta region, the multiple strengths of government, market, public and enterprises rather than the single strength of only one party are needed. In the combination strategy of industrial parks and residential facilities of the Pearl River Delta and Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau regions, it takes 15 years for an industry to grow from scratch and at least 50 years for a city. Therefore construction work will be based on long-term development. Only with strategic insight can we build from scratch, from half-maturity to maturity.

ZHANG Guangnan, Associate Professor of the Centre of Studies of Hong Kong, Macao and the Pearl River Delta, Sun Yat-Sen University

Cooperation in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau region features one highlight and two opportunities.

The highlight is the cooperation between three custom territories of the same country. In cooperation within one country, there are new challenges and opportunities for which we should learn from the EU. Learning from the EU is more about the top-level design of the government.

The two opportunities are for economics and the institutions. The economic opportunities involve two aspects. The three regions, among them Hong Kong and Macau, have close contact with the EU countries

and areas. So we agree that cooperation among the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau region is actually cooperation between China and the EU. Hong Kong and Macau could act as a bridge, whose function is not 100% realised. That is why it is so important to hold the China-Europa Forum today in Guangzhou, forging deeper ties between China and the EU, for which cooperation in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau region could act as a bridge.

The other is the opportunity for institutional design. The Chinese reform and opening-up policy beginning 30 years ago has brought many opportunities to the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau region. And for the next 30 years there will be more opportunities for institutional design. In the Chinese reform and opening-up 30 years ago, Hong Kong and Macau seized the opportunity first and made good use of the favourable policies. Now the EU can bring a lot of experience in social governance to the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau region.

Eduardo Guglielmetti, Network and project manager of the ENTP

I was saying at the beginning that to solve this problem of non-existing European legislation on everything, there are case-by-case agreements. The most famous example is a bridge between Denmark and Sweden that creates one single working area. But it is not always like that. For example, if you think about Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia, and Trieste, which is the closest big city (only 70 km away) there is no train connection, not a single one, between Ljubljana in Slovenia and Trieste in Italy.

I will mention a tool that exists in Europe. This is the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation. Another is the Macro Regions. For example in the eastern part of Europe, a lot of regions along the Danube River are creating a macro-region, meaning that they cooperate on certain topics together. As you know I work with New Towns in Europe and for four years work with New Towns China as well. When we talk about urban development and urbanisation what people say is, OK in Europe we have at least 200 years of experience, but we should mention one important point which is what kind of organisation are we talking of? Is it an organic one or an artificial one? The decision-makers of cities that have exist for centuries have to justify the projects; the city is there, they have maybe to re-think it, but with existing problems and existing dynamics. But when you have to create a new town it is a different organization; it's an act, it's a gesture. You come and you modify the territory to the good. And why is it important? It is important because, if I give an example, we say that when you build a house it is for 50 years, maximum 100 years, but when you build a road it is forever. So my question is: Which model of urbanisation are we thinking of? The question also refers to this morning's presentation. Are you talking about the American town model of urbanisation, or are you talking about Dubai urbanisation, or are you talking about more conservative urbanisation like the European one?

It is true that the financial part is really important, in Europe too when we created new towns after the Second World War we also invented some special kinds of financing instruments. I don't know if you have the same in China, but there were state loans, private loans, special banks for supporting local authorities, different terms of references for the developers of real estate, etc. The big question is elsewhere and that is why 30 or 40 years after the creation we are still discussing the plans of the cities because to create, to produce cities, we have to keep in mind two things. This is our point of view. The first is that it is not just a real-estate project. We have to deliver a community. The second thing is that we have to accept that the planning and the evolution of the city may change. If you wish I can give you a brief example. Let's call it city X, a city in the Netherlands, one of the new towns built in the Netherlands. The project was designed by a famous architect, was very beautiful on paper and a lot of money was put in, but it was designed in a functional way, with divisions of functional neighbourhoods, and it was delivered in a bad way, so when the first inhabitants arrived not all the functions of the city were there. There was no famous core of the city so the people started to have a sense of not sympathy towards the city but rather a sort of criticism towards it. Lots of things were destroyed because they felt that they abandoned by the city planners. So it is a famous mistake that should not be replicated.

I conclude with a good example. One of the latest new towns in Europe has been built in Belgium and they

have a sort of participatory management of the master plan, meaning that the first inhabitants consider themselves as pioneers. They are really attached to the landscape of the city and they have regular meetings to know how the city will be developed in the future. This creates a real sense of belonging. The landscape of the city is well preserved, the city is quite rich, keeps attracting people and keeps growing. The value of the houses and of the land has increased a lot.

ZHANG Renhan, Strategy Counsellor on Regional Economic Development

Are those successful examples the results of the preliminary planning for communities and the later planning for the citizens to participate in the process of China's becoming prosperous?

Eduardo Guglielmetti, Network and project manager of the ENTP

The answer is twofold. Usually in Europe when a new town has been built it is a powerful gesture and usually there is the decision by the government behind it, so it is top-down. The big work is involving all the actors already in the territory, for example the majors of the small villages or the farmers who live in the countryside which won't be the countryside any more. But then if you want the city to be successful you have to find ways to have community participation. In the case of the city I mentioned, Louvain-la-Neuve in Belgium, it is a particular case because it is a product of an historical problem between the two communities in Belgium. When a famous university that has existed since the middle Ages split in two, the second group, the French speakers, had to find a new site to house the rest of the university. So there was already a strong identity before the city was born. But this doesn't change from a planning point of view. The city was planned. The decision was top-down because the university and the state decided where the city would be, they bought the land, they developed, etc., but from the beginning they decided to make the management of the city a little different, more participatory.

This was for two reasons. The first is because they obviously wanted the first client of the product to be satisfied, but also because they wanted to show it to others as publicity; to say, look, people living here are happy, come here and buy a house, it is a happy community, it is a successful new town. It is not a ghost town, not a dormitory town, it is a place with an identity, which was the problem for new towns that had been developed too fast and which were lacking identity and had a very bad reputation as dormitories or something like this. I don't know how it is in China, but in Europe it's a problem of identity for the new towns that was really important.

ZHANG Renhan, Strategy Counsellor on Regional Economic Development

Mr Edoardo Guglielmetti has shared with us an important case for China. China's new-type urbanisation plans or the processes of building new towns severely lack two factors. The first is the lack of participation by citizens or urban residents during the government's decision making and planning.

The second is the lack of a sense of identity in China while the European countries have a strong sense of identity. In the most recent 20 years, when China was becoming the world factory and building new towns, the biggest migration of the early 21st century emerged. On the edge of every city in the coastal areas in Eastern China residents come from all over China. They do not even know the identity of this group. Their personal identity cannot represent the group identity in the area where they are living. Therefore, Chinese citizens or urban residents, though having personal needs, have no idea of how to communicate with the government properly. Their personal needs cannot be expressed due to lack of the sense of group identity. As a result the new towns are not satisfactory for residents from all walks of life. That is an important issue in China's new urbanisation.

SHEN Qianqian, Project Manager CITEGO (in charge of the Chinese part), FPH

In northern Europe there are three patterns of citizen participation. The first is initiated by the local government, which is in charge of the whole process. The second is initiated by the government and then entrusted to professional organisations or private entities (consulting companies), or initiated completely by citizens or urban residents. The third is that when people wish to transform their community, considering a developer would cause a major increase in cost. In order to save costs they will hire architects and professionals for planning and discuss with them the whole process, which is a combination of needs and design.

CHEN Shu, Guangdong Provincial Academy of Governance

Will China's urbanisation follow or learn from Europe, the USA, or Dubai's fast construction? I think we have tried all of them, mostly Dubai's. China's urbanisation, no matter by what means, is promoted by the government and lacking the participation of the common people or the public.

JIN Linming, Partner of JunZeJun Law Offices

I would like to ask Mr Edoardo Guglielmetti two technical questions. The first is: "What roles do the governments play in Europe's urbanisation?" The second is: "Considering the differences in legal systems and institutions in China and the EU, how does Europe deal with the development of rural and urban communities during the whole process of urbanisation? Are there urban villages in Europe? If not, then how did Europe dispose of them properly?"

Eduardo Guglielmetti, Network and project manager of the ENTP

I will start with the last one. Thanks to American investments, the creation of the European Union and the major construction all over Europe, the cities expanded. So what happened? Actually there is an answer. When the cities have reached metropolis in Europe there are two options: In one case, for example in Italy, nothing happened. There was all this so-called urban sprawl, meaning private properties are built all around the big cities (in Spain as well, especially at tourism sites) but the political boundaries have stayed the same. So you have municipalities with a certain area, but in reality the dynamics of transport, of the economics, of the commuters, are much larger and not well controlled. This is the case for Milan for example.

Then you have the case of cities which established different kinds of government systems to face the problems of the territory covered by the expansion of the metropolis. Examples include what they call "the greater", as in Greater London, Greater Rotterdam. Paris still can change and they will create it soon, but in France many cities have a Metropolis Council. What is that? It is that the city stays the same, with its mayors, its boundaries etc., but you create another level of administration at which the mayors sit, or the councillors from the other cities, and all together they make decisions about the territory. For example, you could also decide that you combine some of competencies such as transport. Usually in Europe local transport such as buses, trams, trolley buses, depends on the city council.

For the villages that have been comprised by the expansion are different to the villages that are still rural but close to the metropolis. This is a problem and there is no single solution. One important instrument we have in almost every European country is the regulation concerning land use and special planning. This means that at different levels of authority, for example the regional level, usually you try to predict and decide the use of land to reduce urban sprawl, to decide also if the land will be built on or not, or if it stays agricultural or not. So, there are some plans that can be modified, but usually you need the agreement of different authorities. It does not change from one day to the other, the control, the use of the land.

JIN Linming, Partner of JunZeJun Law Offices

From the historical perspective, what roles did the government play in Europe's urbanisation? Did they go with the flow or build new towns like China?

Eduardo Guglielmetti, Network and project manager of the ENTP

Obviously the states were the engine for urbanisation in Europe but indirectly, the European states were the direct engine of industrialization. There would not be big capitals, big banks, big insurance and big industries without the investments that the states, and especially the UK, made by putting railways everywhere on their territory and supporting the development of harbours, etc. We are talking about centuries ago, before the creation of modern Europe. It was during that period that fast urbanisation was experienced passively by the states. The concept of urban planning and urban awareness developed more recently in Europe but as I said before, there are not policies on urbanisation at the European level. The European Union is only making funds and tools available for the different actors to use. Urbanisation is still a competence of each and every member state.

To come back to your question: How do member states react to urbanisation? We have 28 member states in the EU and we have 28 different policies. Some countries have a tradition of centralised policy, including urbanisation, like France for example. There are other countries, for example Italy, that never had a policy for urbanisation. The last big urban development was made under fascism. These were called 'foundation cities'. Afterwards you only had big urban sprawl around the Milan area.

There are many models in Europe. There is not ONE model of urbanization. This is also because of the differences in terms of climate. You cannot think the same way if you live in southern Europe or northern Europe where different materials are used and where countries are more sensitive to environmental issues. Looking at the Netherlands you will see that the cities developed by integrating bike lanes while there is not a single bike lane in the new big neighbourhood in Paris that has just been built because developers decided there was no use for it. So there is not a single model but different experiences because there are different legal systems. But there are some European commonalities. For example, a regulation has been recently approved and obliges every new building to be passive, to respect rules in terms of energy and efficiency. Almost every member state has adopted this regulation and taken it into their national context.

JIN Linming, Partner of JunZeJun Law Offices

First, you just said that the EU consists of 28 member states, each of which has its own legal systems and policies. Are there any general plans of the EU for an integrated entity for cooperation within the EU; for example, in terms of important infrastructure projects? Second, is there any general plan, apart from the commercial factors, are there other common difficulties in cooperation?

Hubert Julien-Laferrière, Associate Professor of the IEP, Lyon, France, Vice President of Grand Lyon

You know better than me what exactly the competencies of the European Union are. But what you have to understand is that the dream of the founding fathers of the European Union was a federal state. It is not exactly a federal state today, especially because we have 28 countries and it was created with only six countries in the beginning. Today sustainable development and environment is a shared competence with the European Union. The EU has the tools to implement public policies, to have smarter cities and more sustainable cities. For instance the EU will give the objective of the "3 time 20", so the 28 countries will have

to apply that within their national laws or local laws. For example, in France, which is still quite a centralised country, urban planning is mostly carried out by the cities. So it certainly is a shared policy with the European Union and its member states and the local authorities.

CHEN Shu, Guangdong Provincial Academy of Governance

During China's high-speed growth there has been internal migration. Since our population has grown rapidly in the past 20 to 30 years, guidance from the government is necessary. It is just that the government has not listened to the people very much in the process. What did Europe do to balance the interests of the government, the enterprises and local interests?

Eduardo Guglielmetti, Network and project manager of the ENTP

I work with new towns so I could speak for days. I very much love the example of the Chinese presentation which represents very well the balance between two different interests. One of the main problems of the towns was to provide housing and a community but the fact is that you had two different dynamics: On one side the need to create a community, provide a sense of belonging, of pride, a good landscape; and at the same time you have a product, you have to sell houses and also have to have a sound financial system for the development of the city. So the problem was: Who was the target public of the new towns in the 1950s and 1970s? Mainly middle-class young families want to buy and to live in a house with a garden. As a result some new towns are much expanded. In that period petrol was not expensive, everyone was using the car and buying cars. Distances are huge in these new towns and that is why I said it is important to think about what happened in Europe so as not to replicate the same mistakes. Now all the people, the elected representatives and the actors involved in new towns are thinking about how to find a remedy for this problem now that petrol is very expensive, and in some new towns it is even too expensive to have public transport because of the distances. You need your car even to buy a newspaper. But at the same time they are laboratories for experimenting with different kinds of management as I mentioned concerning participatory management in the Belgian new town.

If I can conclude with some very quick examples and share some findings about the history of European new towns in France and in the Netherlands, '*Functionism*' should be avoided; no-one wants to cross a neighbourhood where you only have offices or industry at night for example. Now in new towns we often tend to have multi-functional spaces: commercial, residential, etc. in order to keep the neighbourhood alive. The second thing is that what killed new towns and also big real-estate development is speculation, and that happened all around the world; in Europe, now also in Egypt where you have huge new towns that are totally empty and there are some cases in China that you know very well.

People are influencing, lifestyles are changing, the face of the city, so the towns that are more successful whether they are new or old towns, are those that are able to take into consideration the needs of their inhabitants and give the city an image and an identity which is in line with the inhabitants. Then there is also the territory. There is the famous model of Bilbao, which is one possible urbanisation model that has been criticised and is not easy to export everywhere.

Usually a new development is a more solid investment if there are linkages with the region, with rural areas such as connecting infrastructure, etc. Disneyland is the most caricatured example in Europe. It was thought about and reflected on for years and has been linked to infrastructure investments in train stations and in hotels to retain employment. You can never limit a new development to just a real-estate project; it must always have linkages to the community and obviously the government.

It is very important to know who is representing what, who is deciding on the territory. In some countries, as in France, they created different types of governance with a special status in order to have an easier way of

accessing the main management. It is important when you create a city to decide when the developers end their work and when the politician or the council is taking over and making decisions.

Hubert Julien-Laferrière, Associate Professor of the IEP, Lyon, France, Vice President of Grand Lyon

I think that what really changed is that today we would not have a new town policy, urban planning policy, real estate policy, housing policy without it being linked to a public transport policy. Twenty years ago this did not exist in France that is an example of the mistakes we used to make. Today in my city we do not think about projects without thinking about public transport.

Yesterday, for example, in our metropolitan areas, we had a centre and the suburbs. We want to change that and have different points of what we call 'centrality'. We do not want only one centre in which there are people who have enough money to live there and then people who, because they cannot afford to live in the centre, would live in the suburbs without the infrastructure and commerce. What we want to build are metropolitan areas with several points of centrality, where you have the housing and all the public services that we owe to the citizens, including public transport that will link these different points to each other.

The new neighbourhood or confluence in Lyon, which was actually a post-industrial area with disadvantaged people living there, is where the first positive efficiency housing unit was built. It is not in the centre of the city but is actually a new centre in which you have new housing, 30% social housing, metro and tramway stations so you can reach the centre of the city and commerce and other public services.

We do not want neighbourhoods in which people would only live and then take their car or even the metro to go to work and entertain themselves somewhere else. We want our cities to have these different centres in which you find everything; the housing, the work and the leisure.

CHEN Shu, Guangdong Provincial Academy of Governance

It is not enough for China to build new towns with a population of 200,000 to 300,000 as in Europe. In areas with rapidly growing populations such as the Pearl River Delta region, especially the Guangzhou area, it is not enough to build new towns with a population of 100,000 or 200,000, or towns with 500,000 people such as Panyu and Shiqiao, or towns like Huadu, to support the vigorous development of Guangzhou. We hope there will be an East, South or West Guangzhou with a population of two million. I put forward such a concept, that Southern Guangzhou could follow Chicago or Lyon to build a larger city with a population of three million, and this city would be new for the moment, but it would be a mother city in 30 or 50 years, replacing Guangzhou and becoming a new centre of South China. I think Guangzhou has to take up the challenge so that it is large enough to receive immigrants and thus complete the migration.

With respect to the balance of employment and housing, and the balance of old and new towns as well as within new towns, it is not enough to support the balance with a single town in the way Panyu and Huadu did, which only meets the requirements for employment at a lower level. The concept of South or East Guangzhou is a good idea for Guangzhou's next stage. We have too many centres, so we need a bigger concept than the new European towns.

Eduardo Guglielmetti, Network and project manager of the ENTP

If I can add just a short reflection about urban policy now, and then answer your question. What is happening exactly, why are we talking about urban development now in Europe? Because we have been obliged by the crisis to review all our management of the cities to keep the same services and quality of life but with fewer resources. Now the central state is deciding how much money goes to the cities and maybe they are reducing the transfer of money to the cities. But the cities have to deliver the same services. They are the last point of

administration and the closest to the citizens and they are the ones that will be judged by the citizens primarily. Usually in Europe you receive from the government the amount of money that you would need for your territory. In the UK they drastically reduced the money and even closed all the development agencies but they have to provide the same services. So what you do is you rethink the way of managing the cities.

So the idea is the one of resilience, I do not know if you can translate this concept into Chinese. The resilience is linked to sustainable development. It is the idea that you can adapt and change, react to crisis and to shocks in a positive way, and this is what is happening in the successful towns. To answer your question, I do not know if the project of an Eastern or Western new town will be a success. What I can say is that the new towns that were successful are those that not only answer a need but also anticipate changes. We can meet in 20 years' time and check if your buildings have aged too fast in a bad way, if the citizens are still there and happy and if you could modify for example your transport system according to new means of transport and mobility. We cannot think that the people will act or have the same way of life now and in 20 years' time.

***ZHANG Guangnan**, Associate Professor of the Center of Studies of Hong Kong, Macao and the Pearl River Delta, Sun Yat-Sen University*

We have been thinking about the construction of the urban villages in Guangdong Province. Are our government's general ideas based on a specific principle? Do you have suggestions for that? Nowadays many big abandoned factories have been transformed into creative parks. I am wondering how the big factories are used in the Europe.

***CHEN Shu**, Guangdong Provincial Academy of Governance*

Liede Village is a classic case of transforming urban villages in Guangzhou. Is it a success or failure? We leave it to history. We have encountered a lot of problems. The major one is the high density of architecture. It will cost too much to renew. A sufficient plot ratio makes the city too crowded to be inhabited comfortably. Guangzhou has a general principle which is, whether it is Liede or Pazhou or all the 2,900 villages, the government doesn't have to spend extra money or increase the costs to renew the villages. That's the general principle of the government. It will be better if the real estate developers take their responsibilities. Those are all basic principles.

So far Guangzhou has not explored much for a practical development model among developers, experts and local residents. I think we should find a balance in the future. Principles on fiscal cost and land displacement are expected to be found.

***Eduardo Guglielmetti**, Network and project manager of the ENTP*

I can give an example. If you go to Copenhagen in Denmark, a very rich and developed country, there were very good urban projects. It was a national city at the beginning, now it has totally lost its image because in the 1970s they transformed what became the central area. It was huge industrial site with railways, etc. They decided to open it totally, created a green belt and put all the fabric, leisure facilities, that they could put alongside this area. It works now. People go there to bring their children, play football, and there are theatres, concert halls, etc. It was done when the economic situation was good. Now I can give the opposite example in Brussels. This is another territory which is full of industrial areas within the city but now it is becoming too expensive to convert these with just public money and also for energy efficiency reasons. In Europe we had the same trend of conversion of big industrial areas into creative areas or clusters. There are some very good examples in Rotterdam, Manchester and Eindhoven, etc. The problem is that we have to be careful. It is a possibility but it is not a model.

I visited a creative neighbourhood in China last year where they decided there would be an area for artists. So there were galleries, a huge square with coffee and shops, theatres and even apartments for the artists, except that everything was empty. Everything was ready, even the houses, but empty. We should not forget that every project has to be linked with the territory, so yes you can promote creativity, convert industrial areas if there is some potential but if it is not linked to a territory the investment may be a failure.

Part 3: Guangzhou Forum Conclusion

Summary of Conclusion Reports of Five Workshops

Workshop 1: Designing, Financing and Innovating Cities

Mrs Pascaline Gaborit, Director of the European New Towns Platform (ENTP), was European prime mover for the first section “Urban Construction, Operation and Financing”, and **Mr. Marc Glaudemans**, Professor of Urban Strategies at Tilburg, The Netherlands, and founding director of the Stadslab European Urban Design Laboratory, was prime mover for the second and third sections.

Mrs Pascaline Gaborit

There were 14 key points, remarks and findings from the first workshop discussion of four hours.

- 1) Renewing cities or designing cities should not occur for financial or real-estate reasons. Rather, it should be on the one hand for current inhabitants and on the other for the inhabitants to come. The importance of the current and future population lies behind the technique.
- 2) In such urban operations a balance between the different stakeholders needs to be found - the public sector, the people and the private sector in combination with respect for the environment and other Millennium Development Goals. The public sector needs to be able to articulate between national, provincial and local levels. The public sector has targets and needs funds. The private sector needs profit, return on investment and to face the risks of failure, with a balance between the short and long terms.

In order to address these questions, our comments were:

- 1) The autonomy of local authorities is important. Indeed, local authorities are at the crossroads of national interests and people's needs.
- 2) The environment is key to sustainable organisation but should not overshadow the needs of people. In the different projects I am working on you can observe examples of slums and informal housing where CO² emissions per inhabitant are very low. However, other indicators such as public health, education, access to employment and drinking water show that this is not a future for what we call “sustainable development” in very general terms. Sustainable development needs to become the interest and priority of all stakeholders. When environment is a common concern among the different stakeholders it has better chances of success.
- 3) The question of city metabolism can seem abstract unless you look at food supply chains, and also waste management. In China municipal waste management involves the equivalent of 0.98 kg/day (compared with 1.48 in Germany), but incineration and recycling can also produce energy. Research shows that there is a need to reduce waste and to improve recycling and source separation.
- 4) Sustainable urbanisation is not only linked to health (air, water and food pollution) but also to the provision of healthcare facilities and access for the whole population, including vulnerable groups, to drinking water and health services.

- 5) The need to reduce the car dependency is necessary within the context of environmental protection as well as traffic congestion. This can be carried out through promotion of public transport systems, cycle lanes, intelligent parking systems, ICT and intermodal transport, as well as by privileging shorter distances.
- 6) Links with the local economy (increase the housing/job ratio at neighborhood level), although this is difficult to encourage people to live close to their home.
- 7) In large-scale financial investment situations, it is necessary to find a balance between economy, cultural heritage and the old and new. There is a need to balance culture and industrial heritage, as well as heritage and community investment.
- 8) The risk of ghost cities is important. In this context it is necessary to take into account parameters such as the lifespan of buildings, connections, the local economy and marketing in order to avoid empty cities.
- 9) Public Private Partnerships are developing in China. In Europe, according to the participants, the key would lie not only in the proposals but also in the implementation.
- 10) The Integrated approach: cities cannot be built solely by engineers but also need the involvement of planners, architects, sociologists, economists, people without qualifications, artists and creative people as innovation would not occur without creativity.
- 11) Local debts can threaten the economy. Local public debt in China amounts to 10.7 trillion RMB. Speculation concerning public and local debts can be a threat. However, this does not mean that public, social, health and cultural services should not be developed at local level.
- 12) The impact of the economic crisis in Europe has slowed local public investment. It is also more difficult to change mindsets in a context of economic crisis and rising unemployment.

In conclusion, there is no recipe for designing liveable cities, but the workshop has opened a great deal of space for dialogue. It confirms that cooperation is not easy and remains a collective challenge.

Mr Marc Glaudemans, Professor of Urban Strategies, Architecture and Planning European Urban Design Lab in Tilburg, the Netherlands, European moderator of the second and third section of the Workshop 1:

These two sessions were on cities and the countryside, and on planning methods and doctrine.

Session Two: We had two presentations. One concerned continuity and transition in both China and Europe (the case of Le Havre). The key message was that if you invest in a really durable urban structure you will benefit for generations to come because the urban structure will be able to adapt to changes while still retaining its basic quality.

The second presentation was on urban agriculture and the main message here was that you must bring producers and consumers more closely together so as to increase the added value for farmers. The farmers will gain more respect and you will add value to the whole value exchange in the agricultural system. The conclusion of that session was that countryside and cities are completely interdependent and interconnected and should be considered as an integrated whole. The key issue to focus on is raising awareness through the education of citizens and introducing incentives to guide these developments.

Session Three concerned urban planning methods and doctrines.

- 1) There was a debate that has already been mentioned on how to reconcile heritage with new development, and how to ensure that the old cities will also have a role in the future of China's

urbanisation. We discussed various global matters and challenges in urbanisation, such as urban transformation, smart cities and social innovation, and we covered some case studies. There was also a need to develop some Chinese benchmark case studies.

- 2) The compact city model could turn out to be a very suitable guideline for future urbanisation, especially because China is also already moving from a manufacturing economy to a higher-end, service-oriented economy. In that case, the compact city model could prove to be of advantage.
- 3) Beware of vested interests and limitations through current land-use policy and tax regulations.

Recommendations for future Europe-China exchanges:

- First: the entire debate on continuity and transformation - how to reconcile the old and the new.
- Second: Next time there should be more in-depth discussions on specifics or more time spent on specific topics; i.e. CBD and smart grids etc.
- There was also a good suggestion about focusing on second-tier Chinese cities rather than a large metropolis in order to prevent future mistakes and also for the application of lessons learned. We are now facing the fact that these cities are going to lead urbanisation and might benefit from lessons learned in larger cities.
- In-depth exchange on land-use policies and reform (key guiding principle for current Chinese urbanisation)
- Urbanisation for a future innovation economy (transition from industrial to services based economy; requires compact, sustainable urban models).

Workshop 2: Sustainable cities and societies

Mr Peter Ramsden, Pole manager, UK, URBACT expert, European moderator of the workshop 2

We identified four main things which had come through the discussions over the two days.

- 1) How to provide and pay for smart public services. The question of universal service provision: How to reach groups not currently reached in both Europe and China. The fact is that in many service examples we now have to find some middle ground between these two extreme points.
- 2) How to provide these services: The key question in both China and Europe about how to integrate migrants and also their families in the city; recognition by many Chinese delegates that the organisation could not be complete until people had full right in that new setting in the city, and that is a major challenge. The third plenum had raised the question of the *Hukou* and the rule on migration.
- 3) How to encourage citizen participation in order to generate smart services: This is important for a continual renewal. We need compact cities and to avoid sprawling cities, we need to renew the parts of a city that are outdated. But how we can keep the citizens and build trust with the citizens in that process is a central question. There are many examples of cities in Europe that are successfully doing this and also examples of other catastrophically failing to do so. We could learn from both good and bad examples and in China there are many challenges in this regard.
- 4) How to support social enterprise and strengthen civil society organisations to deliver these new kind of services: There are all sorts of questions here ranging from how they can be financed with new forms of social finance which are beginning to emerge in various part of the world, how we can incubate these new organisations and help them to grow, and how they can become more self-sustaining both financially and operationally.

This gives us a really broad platform for a future collaboration. In terms of how that can actually take place, during a previous workshop we had some reflection on the process that we are engaged in - we want to deepen these exchanges between Chinese and EU counterparts, not just between cities but between other stakeholders as well, including the NGOs and the private sector. It is crucial to ensure that the right people are in the room for the discussion to be really productive. We need a deeper methodology for these learning exchanges.

Workshop 3: Sustainable cities and sustainable production chains

Mr Maurizio Mariani, President of the Risteco Consortium, CEO of Sotral Spa, Italy, European prime mover of Workshop Three, presented the common needs, opportunities and challenges to face together in the coming years.

The Needs

- We need more scientific cooperation in terms of basic research and fundamental research.
- We need to find some common tools such as platform, networking, in order to share and disseminate the results of research.
- We need more opportunities and the China urbanisation forum is one of the best places. It should be the ideal place to share and to create dialogue between civil societies. What we need more is transfer. For example in the ecological transition there was a case illustrated by a Chinese colleague of mining cities in China. We once had the same problem in Europe. We therefore need to exchange more in order to also find sustainable solutions for the transformation of the mining cities.

Increasing mutual understanding is very important. The European side needs to be more pragmatic, more concrete as the Chinese people are, and not lose ourselves in theory in order to really be able to address propositions from our respective governments.

Another point raised during the three sessions is the bottom-up approach from the grassroots level: we need to be concrete in our propositions.

- The last need is for a common framework such as that we already have in Europe, for research and environmental issues such as water management, waste management, and atmospheric pollution.

The Opportunities

The presentation by the city of Vitoria Gasteiz in Spain with the idea of mutualising the green capital award won by the city several years ago, should be a way of increasing citizens' engagement. Citizenship should be considered as central in order to shift the paradigm in cities. This type of award should also be helpful for Chinese cities.

Another idea emerged as we watched a video of a solar campus made by 24 European young professionals working around food. We need to organise more inter-generational events; we need to share between the generations, as young people are the future of our world. We should again use the platform of the China-Europa Forum to launch business cooperation as well. We need to start cooperation with business counterparts.

Another point came from the fact that in July this year China created a concrete engagement in the 'ecocivilisation' project within the framework of the 'beautiful China Project'. This should also be another big opportunity for cooperation between China and Europe.

One of the common challenges is mutual recognition in the field of intellectual property - we are talking

about knowledge transfer between businesses, between economic actors, but we also need to process real rules and recognition of intellectual property.

Foster dialogue inside the China-Europa forum since we all agreed that this is the ideal place to share the vision for a truly sustainable model of city.

Another point is to create standards using a common metric system to evaluate sustainability of the city. Sustainability is a very big word and we can put a lot of things into it, but we need to establish a common metric measure in order to be able to evaluate as well as for better recognition and a better competitive market.

Workshop 4: Evolution of the Governance Model, Training and Communication

Julien WOESSNER, Program Manager of Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation for Human Progress (FPH)

“My first idea to share was: How to move from centralised governance models and top-down processes towards collaborative models of governance involving all citizens and reinforcing partnership between academics, civil society, private sector and the authorities. This was the same question in the discussion about the governance models and we talked about collaborative planning, for example, or participatory processes. We had a very interesting case study that showed that it is not so easy to launch a participatory process. There are different types of participatory processes – a participatory process involving participation of citizens in top-down processes for example, but also mechanisms that represent the citizens in the decision-making system and build more on the long-term perspective.

“**In the second session**, dedicated to smart cities, we talked about this cooperation between different people, different sectors and how to have holistic eco-systemic approaches. We underlined that technology is important for linking all these sectors and people but is not the final issue. Technology is not a goal in itself but more something in order to reach the final goal of implementing well-being for people.

“**In the third session**, dedicated to training, we also talked about a learning environment in which different stakeholders share information and teach each other, so that it is not a model with one teacher passing on his knowledge to students, but is more about sharing knowledge and exchanging information from experts as well as citizens, NGOs, migrants, farmers, etc.

“My second idea is the need to define more precisely some concepts that are used by both China and Europe, in international meetings for example. One of these concepts is that of the “smart city” - what does this mean exactly? What are the examples available for better understanding of this concept? We discussed smart people, smart cities, smart communities, but what does it mean exactly when we put the word “smart” before everything? We have the same question with the word “green”: What is a green economy? What is green growth? There is a real need to define, by exchanging views, what lies behind these general concepts and if there are concrete examples of implementation of these concepts.

“The last idea was the fact that there is currently no perfect model of sustainable cities in either Europe or China. There are a lot of experiments that are very interesting and there are a lot of alternatives that are being experimented by communities or local authorities, and also by companies. There is a challenge to interconnect all these experiments and to make them available to a large public. “

***ZHANG Youyun**, Member of the China Economic and Social Council, Vice Chairwoman of the China Association of Employment Promotion, Deputy Director of the CIUDSRC (On behalf of Prof. LI Yuxiao, Dean of the International College, Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications)*

The differences between EU and Chinese urbanisation are obvious. For China, the world's largest developing country, urbanisation is mainly about tackling issues such as urban infrastructure construction. There is still a large gap between China and the EU in adaptation to an innovative and sustainable institution, construction of the rule of law to protect citizens' rights and interests, market regulation and public participation in the public policy-making process. By contrast, European countries are building upon a well-developed infrastructure to develop a more diverse and hospitable environment which can meet multiple individual needs. The core objective of European urbanisation is to provide urban residents with more liveable and favorable surroundings for living, entertainment and growing-up. It is crucial to have the engagement of urban residents in urbanisation, including the decision-making process and construction itself.

China is advancing in urbanisation. A better life and greater well-being for the people is the basic goal of governance. The concept of sustainable development should not only be delivered to governments, but to society as a whole. In addition we should seek effective training methods in the urbanisation process to develop qualified citizens and appropriate institutions. We need to create a more promising future for the coming generations.

Workshop 5: Regional development and cooperation

***Mr Hubert Julien-Laferrrière**, Associate Professor of the IEP, Lyon, France , Vice president of Grand Lyon, European moderator of the Workshop 5.*

"First of all, participants agreed that we faced a common challenge but that we have to be aware of and not ignore the differences between China and Europe. Examples were given such as the fact that in Europe the number of housing units rises by only 1% a year whereas it rises by 20% in China. When we speak about new towns in China we speak of almost one million inhabitants, whereas this figure is a hundred thousand in Europe. So this has to be put on the table, as do the differences in operating methods.

"Having said that, although the scale is definitely not the same in many ways our cities face the same problems. They are at the centre of today's problems and they are also at the heart of the solution. Examples show that public policies affect directly the issue of sustainability such as land use, regulation and public transport policies of course. Everyone also agreed, however, that local authority leaders are the ones to gather all the stakeholders, public leaders, state leaders and local leaders business and civilian society together. It was agreed that public leaders, especially local authority leaders, owe to the citizens fairness between generations, between the different neighbourhoods of our cities, between rural and urban areas, and efficiency especially focusing on innovation and gathering all stakeholders together.

"We must strengthen cooperation between China and Europe, and how? Recommendations:

- **First:** Build an understanding with public actors, civil society and business actors in order to accept that it is not only a problem of transfer of capital, of technology, but that together we have to change the vision, the mindset. For sure we suffer from the same problems in Europe and in China that our elites were trained for a world that no longer exists, and that requires major efforts in terms of training.
- **Second:** Strengthening cooperation between China and Europe also means changing the way we see cooperation. Cooperation between Europe and China is not what we call North-South cooperation, firstly because it is more a West-East cooperation but also because we speak as equals. It is not cooperation between developed countries and a developing country but is something more. It is something that goes beyond the idea of attracting capital to sustainable development sectors, and is

also a process of common innovation and changing governance.

- **Finally:** Strengthen cooperation by using our EU-China Forum to build a dialogue with all the stakeholders of both China and Europe involved in sustainable development and provide a database of case studies. We still have to invent a model of comprehensive partnership for the Forum that would go beyond a sole annual meeting, by building the community process that we need if we wish to move forward with our cooperation.”

CHEN Shu, Guangdong Provincial Party School, Chinese moderator of the workshop 5

In China, however, the role of CSOs in promoting social change is still limited. It is imperative that the next step is the training of government officials and those who are in a position to dominate public resources. We should integrate them in to our dialogues and exchanges, providing them with the wealth of European experiences and lessons in their urbanisation development. The biggest difference between China and the EU, which is also crucial, lies in respect for people, understanding of the living environment and public engagement. There are a lot of things for China to learn from in this regard.

We have reached the following consensus:

- Regional policies are of great importance to the development of an entire region;
- In sustainable development of urbanisation, people’s feelings should be concerned and public involvement should be encouraged;
- There is still a large gap between China and the EU in institutional building, so a more open, inclusive and participatory platform between the two sides should be established;
- Fourth, we recommend the set-up of a real EU-China cooperation platform in Guangzhou and its surroundings.

CONCLUSION SPEECHES

CAI Yihong, Secretary General of the CIUDSRC:

On behalf of the Chinese experts of the five workshops, Mr CAI presented the summary report.

“We reached the following consensus: First, both sides believed that the nongovernmental exchanges and cooperation between China and EU advocated in the **Guangzhou Forum** have played a positive role in promoting the EU-China Urbanisation Partnership.

Second, it is agreed that the Partnership is an important means towards joint progress and a better future for China and the EU countries. A range of critical topics covered by the Guangzhou Forum will lay a solid foundation for the implementation of the Partnership, and for the development of the Guangzhou Forum as an indispensable society-to-society platform in EU-China urbanization cooperation.

Third, it is of great importance for the two sides to strengthen the cooperation in urban construction and cultural cities, which is based on the principle of mutual respect and seeking common ground.

Fourth, both sides are willing to develop and deepen multi-dimensional collaboration.

Fifth, both sides recognise that the purpose of the Partnership is to tackle the common challenges faced by China and Europe, and even the world.

Sixth, the prospects for world economic recovery are still gloomy and China is also facing the pressures of

economic restructuring and inflation. Aiming at the promotion of society-to-society exchanges and cooperation, the Guangzhou Forum is of great significance in facilitating moving the Partnership towards a sound sustainable development.

Finally, we appeal to both sides to take concrete action to continue and enhance this promising process setting sail from the Guangzhou Forum , moving the consensus reached by Chinese and European participants into concrete results and thus establishing a long-term, society-to-society dialogue mechanism between the EU and China on urbanisation. Chinese participants believed that both sides should highlight, inter alia, the following aspects through cooperative efforts:

- 1) comparative studies on sample cases;
- 2) urban renewal;
- 3) the construction and governance of new rural areas;
- 4) the cultivation and support of civilian organisations;
- 5) urban public services system and intelligent service-based communities;
- 6) urbanisation of rural population and citizen attainment;
- 7) European Green Capitals and the quality assessment of Chinese urbanisation;
- 8) food safety and the traceability mechanism;
- 9) transition of mineral resource-exhausted cities;
- 10) water, air and waste pollution control;
- 11) personnel training and exchanges of government officials on urbanisation development with good cases and recognized standards.”

Six conclusions of the Guangzhou Forum

Pierre CALAME

1. The focus of our cooperation must be the transition towards sustainable cities;
2. Although our situations are different (in Europe transform existing cities towards sustainability, in China create sustainable cities), China and Europe are on an equal footing as regards this common challenge;
3. Transition is a global process with many dimensions which must be addressed simultaneously and which range from conceptual and mind-set shift to practical solutions;
4. Transition is a multi-stakeholder process and all stakeholders have to be involved in China-Europe cooperation;
5. We need to create flexible mechanisms to help new partnerships emerge and a clearing house to connect possible partners and reduce the transaction costs of new cooperation;
6. We need to alter phases of in-depth dialogue on focused issues and sharing the common lessons from these different prospects.

About Organisers

China-Europa Forum



In the nine years since its founding in 2005 the CEF has developed a unique channel of dialogue between Chinese and European societies:

In 2005 the initial meeting of the CEF took place in Nansha in south China. In the presence of statesmen, diplomats, experts and journalists, the meeting presented and opened up discussions on the construction of the European Union and relations between China and Europe.

In 2007 the second Plenary Meeting was held in Brussels with 800 participants. Forty-six workshops were organised in 23 cities across nine European countries before the plenary session, giving the Forum a role in global debate with key European and Chinese institutions taking part.

In 2010 the third Plenary Meetings was organised around 60 workshops, which were held across China and culminated in a plenary meeting in Hong Kong, bringing together 700 participants.

The CEF is supported by foundations, leading figures and prestigious institutions, and has developed strong partnerships with the media in Europe and China.

Among the founders are the Charles Léopold Meyer Foundation for Human Progress and the Association of Chinese Intellectuals Living in Europe, with the support of the Henry Fok Foundation and the Macao Foundation.

The CEF is supported in Switzerland by the China-Europa Forum Foundation, and in France, from 2011, by the Foundation for China-Europe Dialogue under the auspices of the Academy for Moral Sciences and Politics. Its **Board of Administrators** is presided over by the Permanent Secretary of the Academy and includes among others **Marianne Bastide-Bruguière, Mireille Delmas-Marty, Pierre Calame, Paul TrânThinh and Michel Rocard**. Its Brussels Liaison Office ensures relations with European Institutions, Chinese offices and representatives, and the European regions.

In China, prestigious universities such as those of Beijing, Wuhan and Hong Kong have been **long-standing and more recent partners with the CEF**. They house the Chinese office of the CEF, which organises meetings and supports various ongoing projects.

The CEF has also developed solid partnerships with some major Chinese media ranging from official media such as the website **people.com.cn** to media closer to civilian society such as **Tencent**, the largest website in China, or the **Southern Media Group**. The Hong Kong TV channel **Phoenix TV**, with national and overseas outreach, is also part of our network of media.

For more information, please visit www.china-europa-forum.net

JunZeJun Law Offices (JunZeJun) was founded in 1995 with its headquarters in Beijing. It is one of the oldest and largest partnership law firms in China. It has offices in Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Changsha, Tianjin, Nanjing and Chengdu. Through nearly twenty years of hard work and the relentless pursuit of excellence, JunZeJun has consistently maintained its ranking as one of the best professional firms in the areas of civil and commercial law.

JunZeJun is recognized as in China an expert in advising on urbanization, public utilities, infrastructure and PPP (Public Private Partnerships) projects. The firm is a pioneer with regard to Chinese urbanization projects. The Guangzhou office in particular has accumulated extensive experience with regard to new town developments and the “three old” renewal projects (old towns, old factories, old village). The firm’s urbanization services includes participation in policy research, designing and implementing governance systems, devising financing and investment structures, facilitating strategic investors, and providing general development and construction legal advice.

JunZeJun has developed long-term cooperative relationships with a large number of reputable real estate property development enterprises. These include R&F properties, Shidi properties, Hong Kong New World Development, Lai Sun Group, SEA Group, Chuang’s Group and Soundwill Holdings Limited. The firm’s real estate practice group offers comprehensive legal services for primary land development, real estate secondary development and operation, the “three old ” renewal projects, new town development projects, land reclamation, projects which integrate real estate development bundling with infrastructure construction, forest rights transactions, and real estate investment and financing.

The firm also has a keen interest in public policy research and the promotion of social welfare issues and corporate social responsibilities. In this context the Guangzhou office has established a Public and Social Law Department which both actively facilitates the work of experts in this area and encourages lawyers in the firm to participate. JunZeJun engages itself in social affair activities by supporting NGOs and other social interest organizations. This includes working with influential Chinese non-government research institutions. Some examples of such work are:

- Working with the Unirule Institution of Economics to co-establish the Unirule Regional Institute of Economics (Southern Institution)
- Cooperating with the China-Europa Social Forum to found the Faze Research Institute for Urbanization and Well-Being.
- Cooperating with the Centre of Cooperative Innovation for Judicial Civilization to found the Guangzhou branch of the Centre of Cooperative Innovation for Judicial Civilization
- Establishing Social Governance Research Centre Guangzhou under the guidance of Committee for Social Affairs of Guangzhou
- Cooperating with the Being Rural Women’s Centre to found the Rural Women’s Development Foundation (Guangdong)

China International Urbanization Development Strategy Research Committee (CIUDSRC)



The China International Urbanization Development Strategy Research Committee (CIUDSRC) is managed by the Science and Technology Commission attached to the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, China (MOHURD). It has been initiated by government officials, research institutes, academic communities, city planners and designers, entrepreneurs from different sectors, financial institutions, and organizations for integrated sales, as well as media partners. It aims at enhancing strategic research and collaboration in the field of urbanization.

The CIUDSRC is divided into an expert committee, an entrepreneur committee, a strategic consultation committee and a news media committee. It is composed of more than 500 elite members, including officials of the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, the Ministry of Land and Resources, the Ministry of Water Resources, the Ministry of Environmental Protection, the National Development and Reform Commission, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Commerce, and experts from Tsinghua University, Peking University, Renmin University of China, the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, the China City Planning and Design Institute, entrepreneurs, financiers, and senior media practitioners.

With the participation of different stakeholders, and from the “international”, “strategic”, “research” perspectives, the CIUDSRC aims to address both symptoms and root causes in urbanization, by matching the appropriate intelligence, industry, planning, finance, and social resources.

For more information, please visit <http://www.ciudsrc.com/>

FAZE Urbanization and Wellbeing Institute (Guangzhou)



Founded in October 2013, FAZE Urbanization and Wellbeing Institute (Guangzhou) (hereinafter referred as FAZE UWI) is a Non-governmental organization (NGO) dedicated to the promotion of research and civil society dialogue on urbanization and social well-being in China.

FAZE UWI was established at the initiative of the China-Europa Forum, a Paris-based international non-profit organization devoted to the activities of a forum in which society-to-society dialogues can take place. Through dialogue and mutual learning between European and Chinese societies, FAZE UWI seeks to carry out research on urbanization and social well-being in contemporary China, with a focus on the integration of local and international experiences. It strives to foster exchanges and facilitate cooperation on urban development, social well-being, environmental policy and civil society empowerment. This cooperation among key stakeholders, including CSOs, enterprises, governments at different levels and public-spirited individuals in China and abroad aims at providing experiences and case studies for the construction of a harmonious and coordinated social and urban development.

The council of FAZE UWI brings together a group of influential professionals with extensive management experience from a broad range of backgrounds, including legal experts, journalists, entrepreneurs, and other representatives of civil society concerned about social progress and well-being.

As designated, FAZE UWI is a Chinese independent organization in partnership with the China Europa Forum, engaged in non-profit activities, including:

- Research on urbanization, social well-being, urban culture, environmental protection, community governance and urban-rural integration, and the advocacy of society-to-society dialogues;
- Trainings, consultations and exchanges on cities and social well-being, and support to capacity building of CSOs;
- Planning and organizing international study tours and high-level exchange programs, advancing exchanges between cities in China and the rest of world;
- Support to conferences and activities related to urbanization and social well-being, raising the public awareness and encouraging debate about urban ecology and social well-being.

联系 /CONTACT

巴黎办公室 Paris Office

电话 /Tel.: (+33) 171 186 936

传真 /Fax: (+33) 171 186 936

地址 /Add.: 124 rue de Tolbiac, 75013 Paris, France

布鲁塞尔办公室 Brussels Office

电话 /Tel.: (+32) 475 316 438

地址 /Add.: Rue Joseph Coosemans, 57, 1030 Brussels, Belgium

中欧社会论坛基金会 China-Europa Forum Foundation

电话 /Tel.: (+41) 213 425 010

传真 /Fax: (+41) 213 425 011

地址 /Add.: Rue Dickens 6, CH - 1006 Lausanne - Suisse

北京办公室 Beijing Office

电话 /Tel.: (+86) -10-6275 4059

传真 /Fax: (+86) -10-6275 4059

地址 /Add.: 北京市海淀区新街口外大街 19 号京师大厦 1003A

Room 1003A, Jingshi Building, No.19 Xin Jie Kou Wai Street, Haidian District, Beijing 100875, China

广州办公室 Guangzhou Office

电话 /Tel.: (+86)-20-22020228

传真 /Fax: (+86)-20-22020228

地址 /Add.: 广州市天河区林和西路 157 号保利中汇广场 A 栋 1511A

Room 1511A, Building A, Baoli Zhonghui Plaza, No. 157 Linhe West Road, Tianhe District, 510000 Guangzhou, China

香港理工大学中欧对话中心

China-Europa Centre - The Centre for Transcultural Communication

电话 /Tel.: (+852) 3400 8215

传真 /Fax: (+852) 3400 8215

地址 /Add.: 香港九龙红磡, 香港理工大学 G 座 8 层 GH806 室

Room GH806, 8/F, Core G, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hung Hom, Kowloon, Hong Kong

成都办公室 Chengdu Office

电话 /Tel.: (+86) -28-8171 3665; (+86) -28-8171 3667

传真 /Fax: (+86) -28-8171 3667

地址 /Add.: 成都市青羊区贝森南路 18 号成都科技会堂 B 座 405、403 室, 610091

Room 403 & 405, Block B, Chengdu Science and Technology Hall, No 18, Besson Road, Qingyang District, 610091 Chengdu, China



www.china-europa-forum.net

Email: beijingteam@126.com

微博 /Microblogging: t.qq.com/c-eforum; e.weibo.com/ceforum