

The 4th China-Europa Forum December 2-5, 2014

Facing Climate Change: Rethinking Our Global Development Model Conference

Paris - Brussels - Geneva - Lyon - Marseille - Lille - Rouen

Summary Report



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Executive Summary

The 4th China-Europa Forum focused on the theme '*Facing Climate Change: Rethinking Our Global Development Model*'. It brought together more than 300 participants from 2 to 5 December 2014 through two plenary sessions and three roundtables in Paris as well as 12 thematic workshops in Paris, Brussels, Geneva, Lyons, Marseilles, Lille and Rouen.



Participants, most of whom came from China to meet their European counterparts, are major players in Chinese and European civilian society: NGOs, enterprises, research centres, local authorities and media. Their exchanges will help to enrich the current Common Text, the result of a year-long process of joint elaboration. When the summary of the workshops and consultations is complete the text will be finalised and made public in 2015.

This Forum enabled participants to express their common needs in terms of cooperation:

- Coordinating action on climate and the environment by all Chinese and European social actors;
- Coordinating access to and the sharing of knowledge, systemic approaches (circular economy) and, by sector, the tools to measure the impact of our production and lifestyle on the environment and climate change;
- Coordinating training about and awareness of environmental and climate change challenges for our citizens, our youth, our policy-makers and our corporate leaders;
- Coordinating environmental law and creating climate law;
- Coordinating regulations encouraging enterprises to act and produce responsibly with regard to the environment and climate;
- Coordinating and sharing technologies that enable a reduction in or better adaptation to the effects of climate change as well as the consequences of climate disruption;
- Coordinating and pooling sustainable financial resources.

Europeans and Chinese have a common awareness of the challenges of getting together to act on climate change and on the transformation of our development model. No one player can achieve this alone: international and multi-player cooperation is essential. We have common objectives of living better and producing better with fewer resources on a planet with limited supplies. Europe and China represent 40% of the greenhouse gas emissions on Earth. Despite recent engagements by Brussels to reduce 40% of European emissions and by Beijing to finally establish a peak to its emissions in 2030, more needs to be done.



Participants in the Forum targeted a number of obstacles to overcome. In both China and Europe civilian participation lags behind in climate action but for different reasons. It is urgent to acknowledge and promote the importance of the role played by NGOs in an action carried out by multiple players with public authorities, local authorities, enterprises, centres of expertise and media. For now it remains difficult outside specialised circles to get together and agree on sustainable solutions. Chinese and European corporate governance practices have yet to undergo fundamental reforms.

Part I – Conference Summary

+ Opening Plenary Session - 2 December 2014

"Systemic Revolution," "necessary break", "stop the past," "founding of the world" are the words that marked the minds of the participants at the opening plenary session held on the morning of 2 December at the Town Hall of the 4th arrondissement in Paris and gathered together more than 200 NGO representatives, experts, entrepreneurs and media from China and Europe. Leading European and Chinese personalities engaged in climate and environmental issues and took part in the discussion in favour of the fight against climate change. In his introduction, which set the initiative of the China-Europa Forum in perspective, **Pierre Calame**, co-founder of the China-Europa Forum and Honorary President of the Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation for the Progress of Humankind, reminded the audience of the unique character of the Forum:

"This Forum is a double Utopia. The Utopia of a dialogue between our societies bringing together all the actors and not only a few of them, and addressing all the subjects of common interest; and the Utopia that China and Europe will show the way to another means of communicating in order to build a global community."



Indeed the idea of organising a wide-ranging dialogue between these two societies is somewhat Utopian. But the fight against global warming created the necessary conditions to turn this Utopia into reality. Listening to each other's presentations clearly shows that differences of opinion exist. What prevails, however, is the common diagnosis of the urgency of the situation regarding the climate and the threat to the environment; the suggested solution for facing this threat

which is common to all mankind; the joint vision of the need to bring all of society together and especially civilian society; and the widely shared conclusion that it is necessary to rethink our entire systems: our modes of production, consumption, governance, organisation, our relationship with science, nature and, in the end, with ourselves...

Right from the opening of this conference participants did not hesitate to call for great changes.



The Director of the Chinese Institute for Philanthropy, **Wang Zhenyao**, spoke about a turning point for human civilisation:

"I think that the discussion on climate change is reaching an important turning point! This turning point should be a turning point in practices, in concepts, but above all in action mechanisms." (...) "At this time of transition for world civilisation, transforming and adapting action and thought mechanisms in the fight against climate change will be of great importance. Many major actions by mankind often start with a

simple change of mind. If our conference can generate new ideas with significant influence then we will certainly contribute to a fundamental adjustment in man's social role!"

Wang Yi, Member of the Permanent Committee of the National People's Congress and Director of the Institute of Policy and Management, Chinese Academy of Science:

"The world is facing the necessity of entering a phase of transformation of and drastic innovation in its development model. This stage brings a series of changes that can translate into a technological revolution, an industrial revolution, a governance revolution or a revolution in business practices. In short, this stage will see the world go through a series of revolutions."



Nor did participants from the European side mince their words.



"In this way we will prove how much ecology, after centuries of destruction, is becoming the founding act of a world that is now beginning." (Georges Berthoin, former Chef de Cabinet to Jean Monnet, President of the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community)

"I am convinced that we are experiencing a change of world; it can be considered as fate, but we should rather be optimistic and consider this as an opportunity, the opportunity of heading for a better society that will be able to conciliate our children's future with that of our planet." (Corinne Lepage, former French Minister for the Environment)



"If we do not take the chance to speak, if we do not organise places like this Forum, if the actors in society, the NGOs, do not get together to take the floor, then even positive decisions that will be made at the highest level will not be acted upon." (Patrick Klugman, Deputy Mayor of Paris for International Relations)

"The common dilemma we are facing is that we need to change, we need to head toward what is new and we need to stop the past, however easy and appealing the past is. When the United States discovered shale gas, new attempts to carry on in the same way using non-renewable energies appeared because we had found a new source. I think that sometimes we react like drug addicts: We need this energy and we do not want to understand that the best way for us all to live on this planet is to use less of it." (Karl Falkenberg, Director General for DG Environment at the European Commission)

Each of us is aware that the path to success will be difficult. How can we combine this strong will to change with the numerous obstacles to overcome along its path? European and Chinese participants offered their analyses and thoughts. Besides the significance of the Forum's initiative in reuniting representatives from across civilian society on a crucial subject that concerns the whole humankind, participants from both sides also insisted on their common will to act together against climate disruption.

First Part: Consensual points

1) Common awareness of the urgency of fighting against climate change in order to protect Earth and Mankind

- ***"Ecology is probably the only subversive idea of the 21st century. Indeed, when looking at what changes in our modes of production and development as well as in our lifestyle ecology calls for, it is clear that we are facing a mutation of our world that cannot but happen in a democratic fashion."*** (Noël Mamère, Green representative of the Gironde Department, Mayor of the City of Bègles)



- ***"We are nearing the mark of 100 billion tons of ore extracted from the ground of this planet every year. We know it is unsustainable in the long run. And if we want to try to maintain the way we are producing and consuming today, the standards of living we have in Europe, if we want to promise this to the nine billion human beings who will be on the planet on the horizon of 2050, then we will need the natural resources of at least two and a half planets. We are living beyond our means and we do it collectively, therefore collectively we have to try to turn back."*** (Karl Falkenberg)

- ***"The entire world is confronted by this issue of climate disruption which can call into question living conditions on the planet, or eventually, if we do not find solutions, the survival of mankind."*** (Corinne Lepage)

- **Paul Tran Van Thinh**, President of the China Europa Forum Association, former European Union Ambassador to the World Trade Organisation, insisted that *"it is necessary for both parties to be able to become more sociable, because together we make peace in the world"*.



2) To fight against climate change, it is absolutely necessary to rethink our global development model

- ***"In order to keep on living on the planet in the best possible way, we need to give up our addiction to energy needs and operate fundamental changes (ways of producing, lifestyle, etc.). Abandon the linear thinking (producing-wasting), for the circular economy is one of the answers brought by Europe."*** (Karl Falkenberg)

- ***“It is necessary to stop lowering environmental standards in favour of the exploitation of resources by multinational companies.”*** (Noël Mamère)
- ***“We not only need to find technological solutions, but also new ways of behaviour and new ways of living.”*** (Corinne Lepage)
- ***“Climate change is mainly caused by human factors. Prejudices of climate change caused by human factors are huge, and may lead to devastating consequences for the survival of mankind. This is a consensus.”*** (Zheng Baowei, Professor at the People’s University of Beijing)



➤ ***“The development of China’s economy over the last 30 years generated great changes, but our economic model, based on high energy consumption, high pollution levels and high CO2 emissions is not sustainable anymore.”*** (Huang Haifeng, Executive Director of Ecological Development Union International)

➤ ***“The environmental footprint of Europe is still too great a burden for the planet. It is true for Europe and even more so for China today. In Europe we gave ourselves an environmental action plan; we want to live well but within the limits of this planet. It is an ambitious objective and we would like to reach it in the horizon of 2050.”*** (Karl Falkenberg)

3) Civilian society is essential to the success of an agreement at the 2015 Paris Climate Conference and the China-Europe dialogue is necessary

- One of the special aspects of the China-Europa Forum is the development of a public space that enables Chinese and European civilian societies to exchange views and discuss issues with experts, entrepreneurs and political institutions. Through the global warming issue and following the expansion of NGO activities in China this initiative has received increasing support. The participation of the Alashan SEE Foundation (Society of Entrepreneurs for Ecology) as co-organiser of this conference and the presentation by Wang Shi, Board Director of Vanke and former President of this Foundation, is perfect proof of this evolution within Chinese society.



➤ ***“I want to underline that, in response to climate change, we must create a framework of social action with five stakeholders: the government, NGOs, general public, media and enterprises.”*** (Zheng Baowei)

➤ ***“We need various models of good governance that include the fight against climate change and low-carbon development; it is not only a governmental matter. A single government cannot act alone; it must involve a large number of stakeholders. In the past in China everything depended mostly on the Government and executive power, including the Programme for Energy Conservation of the 12th Five-Year Plan, which was led by the Government. We believe, however, that in the future, having various models of good governance will be very important. Even if***



the Government has to take on responsibilities and has very important responsibilities already, we - enterprises, NGOs, individuals - should all accept our own responsibilities.” (Zhou Yongzhang)

- ***“The climate issue is not a matter for experts any longer. It is possible to obtain a universal binding agreement in Paris providing that non-state players (NGOs, enterprises, local authorities) take the floor as they did during this China-Europa Forum and do not let states make decisions alone.” (Patrick Klugman)***
- ***“Climate negotiations cannot be left solely in the hands of foreign affairs ministers and handled as international relations. The aim of this 4th China-Europa Forum is that the climate dialogue brings together representatives of the different players in both Chinese and the European societies.” (Pierre Calame)***
- ***“Even in the most climate-sceptical of countries it is necessary to speak to the global civilian society, which is aware that the climate issue is a major challenge faced by our societies. This Forum is a perfect starting point for working in that direction.” (Corinne Lepage)***
- ***“The signing with France of a cooperation agreement on environmental protection demonstrated the importance China attaches to bilateral cooperation. Such a conference is favourable to the development of solutions between China and Europe in order to fight against climate change.” (Jiang Feng, Policy Counsellor of the Chinese Embassy in France)***
- ***“This very edition of the China-Europa Forum is an original contribution of Chinese and European civilian societies because it foreshadows the avant-garde of tomorrow’s world.” (Georges Berthoin)***
- ***“If our conference can generate new ideas with significant influence then we will certainly contribute to a fundamental adjustment in man’s social role! Hope is now, hope is you!” (Wang Zhengyao)***



Second Part: Nuanced responses

There are also matters about which the opinions expressed are more nuanced: The role of China and Europe in the fight against global warming, socio-political issues, reaching an agreement in Paris in 2015 and other issues fall into this category.

1) The role of China and Europe in the fight against global warming and their interaction

European participants insist on the growing importance of China’s role in the fight against global warming and its strategic position within international negotiations. They also raise some of Europe’s weaknesses: ***“The ecological footprint of Europe is still too heavy for the planet.” (Karl Falkenberg)***



The Deputy Mayor of Paris, **Patrick Klugman**, summarised the situation very well: ***“During the COP21 the issue of China’s position is a strategic element: Either China will want an agreement and it will be a success or it will not want one and it will be a failure.”***

According to **George Berthoin**, the relations between and the respective roles of China and Europe are fundamental in answering the challenges our world is facing:

“Our respective successes in the organisation of relations between us and with the world’s major players, whether long-standing or emerging, will play a central role in the answer of mankind to all the challenges of new times. It will depend on the way we respond to the climate disruption challenge. We have to be aware of that. Our responsibility is clear because the answer is now within reach.”

On the Chinese side the position of the avant-garde and pioneering role of Europe in the fight against global warming and in environmental protection was unanimously highlighted by participants, whereas the role of China was not put forward.



The Director of the Center of National Strategy on Climate, **Li Junfeng**, insisted on the importance of cooperation between Europe and China in general and especially in the fight against global warming.

➤ *“When looking at the failure of negotiations on climate we think that we should learn from the EU. The EU is made up of 28 member states. They can actually sit down and discuss things together because Europe does not have a President, or its ‘President’ in name has little power. With 28 member states they can still sit down together to discuss things and together find concerted action. UN negotiations also need such a method.”* (Li Junfeng)

Wang Yi spoke about the complementarity between China and Europe:

- ***“China and Europe must work together to create this model, to jointly promote this structural transformation and to exercise our respective leadership in all aspects in order to face the future... At governmental level, on economics, management and social matters we are getting together to promote a transformation model. Thanks to our joint efforts and to the complementarity between China and the EU we will be able to find a common consensus.”*** (Wang Yi)
- *“China is aware of the urgency and necessity of making environmental protection a priority. Although it took a turn in the 1980s the trend towards environment degradation is not yet fully reversed and a lot still needs to be done.”* (Jiang Feng)

2) Can we reach an agreement at the COP21 in Paris?



In the terms used to qualify the roles of China and Europe, the various opinions expressed noted the caution needed in order to answer the question everyone engaged in the fight against global warming is asking.

➤ *“In the past we looked to some people to give orders to others; in this case it is difficult to reach agreement. Therefore this time, in Paris, we achieved a new approach called ‘the autonomous contribution’. The EU suggested that its autonomous contributions on*

carbon emissions will be a reduction by 40% by 2030, and that its use of renewable energy will reach 26%.” (Li Junfeng)

- **“Science made it clear that we need to go much further and much quicker. I am slightly afraid that the conference in Paris, even if it is expected to be more of a success than that of Copenhagen, turns out to be a success that comes too late and is not ambitious enough. We know that the more we wait, the higher the price there is to pay in order to reverse the situation. Everything we send into the atmosphere as well as everything we pollute here, in our cities, in our countryside, all the water pollution, the soil pollution, the loss of biodiversity, all of this is accelerating and the cost of trying to control it and make this U-turn imposed by the limits of the planet will only increase.”** (Karl Falkenberg)

3) The social issue in the fight against global warming

The social issue is essential for both China and Europe, but the way of tackling it is different because of their respective socio-political contexts.

- **“Behind climate change lie social and geopolitical changes. Today there are three times more climate refugees than war refugees. And indeed we observe that in both rich and poor countries the first victims of environmental injustice are those already suffering from social injustice. The global warming issue is a political issue** since it calls into question our political systems and the links between political systems and financial systems including links based on corruption.” (Noël Mamère)
- **“The spreading of the climate change idea is very important. The political aspect of it, however, should be softened while the social aspect should be reinforced** because it should become part of population awareness and not be limited to the realm of negotiations and transactions between states.” (Wang Zhengyao)
- **“Not only do we have to take into consideration the requirements of the rulers but we must also meet society’s expectations. And within society, enterprises and farmers must be distinguished between. Over the past few years of the process of developing our International Alliance for Ecology we paid particular attention to the development of the most deprived rural populations of China because it is our belief that climate change not only has an impact on the economic and social aspects of a country but also on social fairness. This is the reason why we focus more particularly on fair development of rural regions.”** (Huang Haifeng)



Roundtables

A) Roundtable: Urban transition in facing climate change - Dialogue between Chinese and European experts on sustainable cities

The roundtable held in the Town Hall of the 4th arrondissement of Paris was under the respective chairmanships of **Alain Wang**, Secretary General of Asia Press, **Yajuan Wang**, Deputy Director of Urban Planning Magazine, **Odile Cornet**, freelance journalist, and **Chen Jin**, Professor at Tongji University in Shanghai, Sociology Department. The event brought together more than 100 Chinese and European participants from different levels to discuss and share their point of views on sustainable urban development.



At the opening of the roundtable, **Gerhard Stahl**, former Secretary General of the EU Committee of the Regions, emphasised the importance of the global fight against climate change in a world that was increasingly interconnected. He pointed out:



"We are in a globalised economy where we depend more and more on each other; we are in an inter-connected world where things happening in one part of the world are directly affecting other parts of the world. We all have an agreed principle that an open world is the best answer to a lot of problems, including unemployment, poverty, environmental difficulties and the problems of sustainable development and inclusive development. So we know the problems and we have provided the answer that to cooperate is a good way of solving it together, but I think we also see that the answers given in the past are not sufficient. The simple concept of opening-up markets without allowing proper instruments to be developed is not leading to the results we want to achieve. If we are not able to change our economic model, if we continue with this resource-intensive economic model, it will result in disaster. If a country such as China allows more and more people to share in modern development, If the next step of urbanisation in China brings 200 million people from the

countryside to the cities, and if such big change is made on the basis of the American model of high resource consumption and high CO₂ emissions, I think it will be negative for China and the rest of the world."

The transition to sustainable cities is crucial in the fight against climate thawing. As Hubert Julien-Laferrière, Mayor of the 9th district of Lyons, noted: ***“Cities are responsible for global warming. They consume 75% of energy produced which is responsible for 85% of CO2 emissions. They are the source of new challenges in addressing air pollution, cause health problems, problems of scarcity of resources, environmental constraints, and growing inequality, and the question of spatial segregation is particularly related to the phenomenon of urban spread.”***

How should our business model be transformed towards that of a more sustainable economy? Ari Brodach, Director of Sustainable Development at the Centre National de la Fonction Publique Territoriale, highlighted that: *“The adaptation challenges with climate change are a need to rethink the organisation of production systems with a circular economy, the territory of resilience, the ability to suffer the consequences of extreme climate phenomena, pollution peaks, more chronic health issues, the evolution of the economy towards a sharing economy, and the process of urbanisation becoming more inclusive for residents and all stakeholders.”*

➤ **Yann Françoise**, Head of Climate-Energy Division at the Paris Town Hall, announced that *“the City of Paris has set a target of reducing the share of diesel in the Paris area by 2020. From 1 January 2015 no municipal vehicle will run on diesel; all will run either on gasoline or be electric or hybrid vehicles.”*

➤ On the Chinese side, **Yan Jun**, senior partner at the Jun Ze Jun Law Office in Guangzhou, noted that China, with unprecedented urban development, was facing environmental upheavals. *“For 35 years China has carried out large-scale urbanisation. In the first 30 years the rapid urbanisation caused many problems. As we all know, of the 10 most polluted cities in the world seven are in China. The fight against climate change and ultimately reducing carbon emissions are critical issues in the massive urbanization of China.”*



➤ **Hubert Julien-Laferrière**: *“The economic pillar, social pillar and environmental pillar are the three pillars of sustainable development which lead our urban policy.”*

In order to respond to climate challenges in urbanisation, urban planning policies are essential. These views are shared by common agreement between the Europeans and the Chinese. **Hubert Julien-Laferrière**: *“If these policies of urban planning and development can keep pace with the population explosion, that is obviously a challenge to all our cities even if it is not on the same scale. Before when we talked of technical progress it was human progress, but now we understand that the challenges of our cities show that we cannot rush the pace of human development.”*



➤ **Gerhard Stahl**: *“Without concrete measures affecting the different policy areas, whether urban transport, waste disposal, accurate city planning, energy saving, development of alternative energies, the general objectives will not be met.”*



- **Zhang Xiangshu**, Professor at the Environment School, Renmin University, noted that *“despite the fact that the Chinese have reached locally comfortable lifestyles, there are still serious problems in environmentally sensitive areas, such as geological disasters, desertification. We are committed to fighting against these phenomena and to finding solutions.”*

All stakeholders agreed that in order to adapt to climate change it is necessary to coordinate the actions of local governments, states and the international community. **Nicolas Bériot**, General Secretary of ONERC of the French Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development, pointed out: *“We must develop international networks at different levels; city networks, networks of regions, networks to circulate technological knowledge more rapidly, and the ability to adapt and a return to experience. We need research programmes, to encourage all education and training, and finally, solidarity at international level will speak through the creation and contribution to international funds for helping adaptation in less developed countries.”*

- **Pan Haixiao**, Professor at the Department of Urban Planning, Tongji University: *“Our development consumes a lot of natural resources, the construction of a model of green and sustainable development is at the heart of our reflections.”*
- **Jacques Saint-Marc**, Chairman's Delegate of the Interministerial Steering Committee of the first sustainable urban development agreement China-France (2008/2013), spoke of the importance of the cooperative approach in the areas of mobility and sustainable development between China and France: *“An approach based on trust, experience and knowledge of culture, working methods and exemplary achievements in the fight against climate change.”*
- **Julien Woessner**, Programme Manager of the Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation for Human Progress (FPH): *“We must encourage all systems to connect with similar initiatives that are happening in different contexts, to connect complementary initiatives within the same territory and to improve the dialogue between Europe and other parts of the world where there are other experimental alternatives.”*



B) Roundtable: The role of Chinese and European NGOs in facing climate change - Dialogue between Chinese and European NGOs

Representatives of Chinese and European NGOs met at the Town Hall of the 13th arrondissement of Paris for a panel discussion dedicated to the role of NGOs in tackling climate change. The first session, presented by **Agnès Gaudu**, journalist at *Courrier International*, and **Li Migjiu**, Administrative Director of the Chengdu Urban Rivers Association (CURA), was dedicated to the interaction between civilian society, business and public power in facing climate change. The second discussion, led by **Pierre Haski**, a journalist and co-founder of Rue89, and **Bai Yunwen**, Director of the Climate and Finance Policy Centre of the Greenovation Hub, was devoted to the ways for Chinese and European NGOs to address climate change.

NGOs: At the core of the dialogue on climate change

All speakers agreed that NGOs have a key role to play both in the international negotiations on climate and with the public and stakeholders at the local level.

Yi Xi Zhuo Ma, Project Coordinator for the Community Preservation Project of the Sanjiangyuan National Nature Reserve, Shanshui Conservation Centre: “Our goal is to push the government to join our projects in order to protect the environment all together. The manager of our centre is in the habit of saying that the relationship between the Government and the NGOs can be compared to the soil and the seed: We have to ensure that the Government provides good conditions for the projects of environmental NGOs to grow in the best conditions.”

Vaia Tuuhia, general delegate of the 4D Association, said that “all the stakeholders must contribute to the change. All together does not mean sharing the responsibilities equally: We do not have the same responsibilities and the same levels of action. But in that way we can find the links between the people involved and measure the responsibilities.”

The dialogue with government authorities is not at the same stage in Europe and in China.



Tian Jun, Secretary General of the Chengdu Urban Rivers Association, spoke of a problem that she is used to meeting in the implementation of her NGO's projects: The difficulty of combining the interests of the local government with those of the peasants and defenders of the environment.

If that problem is also shared by European NGOs, the European speakers showed that dialogue with the authorities is more institutionalised.

Denez l'Hostis, President of France Nature Environnement (FNE), mentioned the dialogue of NGOs with the authorities in France: “Currently we have to modernise the institutional debate, we have to go further than just a meeting between different stakeholders.”

Nicolas Imbert, Director of Green Cross France and Territories, believed in “the possibility of further pushing on the accelerator in order to find more efficient ways of local co-construction”.

Vai Tuuhia: “We have to work together on the notion of co-responsibility.”

The voice of Chinese and European NGOs in the public debate

The difference in influence of Chinese and European NGOs in the public debate was also at the core of the discussions.

Luo Hongbo, Director of the Institute of European Studies of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, observed that “compared with European NGOs, the voice and participation of Chinese NGOs in civilian society is rather weak. I insist on the importance of strengthening the cooperation between NGOs from both sides.”

If the NGO voice is audible in Europe, European speakers showed that this remained a challenge. **Denez l’Hostis** insisted on the fact that “NGOs must get recognition of their expertise, which is not always easy. This expertise has to be integrated as early as possible into the decision-making process and not at the end of it.”

The missions of Chinese and European NGOs in tackling climate change

The representatives of Chinese and European NGOs agreed on the role they have to play:

- **Enabling all stakeholders to participate in the change of model**: “This is the position of the 4D Association for the climate conference. We work with popular education networks, schools, or activity leaders in town halls to reach a broader public and try to describe the 2°C target in the daily lives of people, showing them how they also are part of the stakeholders,” said **Vaia Tuuhia** in her presentation.
- **Providing a legal answer**: **Ma Qianru**, environmental lawyer at the Green Anhui Environmental Development Center, explained that her organisation offers legal services to all environmental project stakeholders (governments, companies, inhabitants). For example, it helps villages suffering from pollution to realise the extent of the problems and gives them the essential legal tools to defend their rights. **Denez l’Hostis**, President of France Nature Environment (FNE), spoke of the engagement of FNE in environmental law. FNE is the association which undertakes the most legal proceedings (one proceeding every two days).
- **Committing themselves** to the protection of those most vulnerable to the consequences of environmental problems.
 - For **Denez l’Hostis** “the social question must be entirely included in the environmental debate”.
 - **Tian Jun**, engaged in river protection, insisted that pollution “is not only a natural problem but also a social problem which affects those upstream and downstream, and all the public authorities and companies in the area”.
 - **Nicolas Imbert**, Director of Green Cross France and Territories, talked about the importance of working on the notions of “resilience and vulnerability”.

- **Raising awareness of environmental issues and climate change**

- **Ghislaine Hierso**, Chairman of the French association Petits Débrouillards and administrator of the 4D Association, said that one of the most important roles of NGOs was “to have the power to influence. I always say that is a “duty of influence”. Thus the association created educational tools for youth in schools and after-school support as well as Internet platforms and debates and mediation with young people.
- **Ma Qianru** mentioned Green Anhui’s cooperation with universities, such as the implementation of a teaching platform to introduce and share methodologies from abroad.

How should Chinese and European NGOs cooperate?

- **Denez l’Hostis** said that on the climate issue “China is not a problem but the solution. If China doesn’t move the world will have difficulties in moving. If China gives clear messages it will allow us to fight inside Europe to accelerate the change of development model.”
- **Nicolas Krausz**: “Our Foundation supports the “trans-local” approach: at the global level we have to connect all the alternatives and especially with China. That is what the China-Europa Forum wished to do.”
- **Ghislaine Hierso** highlighted the initiative by the 4D Association in China. The association implemented a project entitled “Way of Life”. “Vaia Tuuhia went to China to work with Chinese families on their vision of the way they will live (daily life, accommodation) and communicate in 2050 and on the change of the development model.”
- Collaboration between Chinese and European NGOs already exists, in particular through the “Tripartite Dialogue of Chinese, European and South American Civil Societies” launched by the Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation for the Progress of Humankind and the China-Europa Forum. **Nicolas Krausz** talked of the interest in exchanges between civilian societies from different parts of the world. This offered ways of thinking about nature and environmental law, for example, to all stakeholders.
- The number of cooperative projects between French and Chinese NGOs is growing. The creation of a numerical platform launched by the French Embassy in China is in progress.
- One of the challenges of cooperation between European and Chinese NGOs is communication. Some of the participants highlighted their lack of knowledge concerning Chinese social networks and their difficulties in sharing documents with their Chinese counterparts, who were not allowed to use the same document storage services.

All representatives of European NGOs noted a real divergence in the fact that some people in China presented nuclear energy as a way of tackling climate change.

C) Roundtable: How enterprises address climate change - Dialogue between Chinese and European enterprises

The third thematic roundtable was dedicated to the position of companies in the fight against climate change. At the first session moderated by **Arnaud Rodier**, journalist and President of Asia Press, stakeholders returned to the issue of the apparent contradiction between profit and the fight against climate change. They then discussed socially responsible investment in the second session chaired by **Richard Werly**, Paris correspondent for the Swiss daily Le Temps.

A wide range of business sectors (including both large firms and SMEs) was represented by construction companies, engineering energy construction, investment, consulting firms, business groups, steel manufacturing and pharmaceuticals. They all reaffirmed the crucial role of enterprises in the fight against climate change. They are among the actors which are indispensable as far as an active role in international negotiations is concerned.

Pascal Canfin, former French Minister for Development and Senior Adviser of the World Resources Institute (WRI), delivered the initial address. He recalled the joint responsibility of China and France in proposing common solutions at the COP21 in Paris.

Claire Tutenuit, General Delegate of the Association of Enterprises for the Environment (EPE), emphasised the fact that companies and business associations should "tell their governments what they expect from the 2015 Climate Agreement".

Nicolas Legrand, Director of Asia Industrial Operations at Sanofi-Pasteur, repeated the words of Margaret Chan, Director-General of the World Health Organisation, in describing climate change as the "defining issue of the 21st century".

Profit and the fight against climate change: two compatible challenges

The challenge for companies is to integrate the requirements of the fight against climate change without jeopardising profit. **Liu Jianfeng**, CEO of Guangdong Construction Engineering Co., said: "As a construction company it is still difficult to achieve profitability goals and to respond to the fight against climate change in the context of a highly competitive market. What our company is able to do now is first make efforts in water and electricity use and avoid wasting construction equipment: i.e. using rainwater, reducing and recycling construction waste."

The fight against climate change is actually "a source of progress and opportunity" for companies. The various speeches showed that in Europe and China many companies are willing to invest in the fight against climate change. A very encouraging consensus emerged from these discussions: These companies have recognised that the fight against climate change and the search for profit are compatible.

- **Dr. Uwe Weber**, Team Leader of the SWITCH-Asia Network Facility, emphasized the need for closer cooperation between the EU and China. He introduced the initiatives of the SWITCH-Asia Programme in China and how these projects enable companies, in particular SMEs, to become more eco-efficient, reduce

energy consumption and thereby become more profitable. He also announced the launch of the new call for proposals under the second phase of the SWITCH-Asia Programme which offers new opportunities for cooperation between Europe and China."

- **Patrick Widloecher**, Adviser to the Chairman of La Poste Group and Director for Responsible Development and Ethics, said that his group increasingly realised the negative consequences of climate change and the inherent social issues. Its impact was also about creating value. This was why the Post went into action against climate change.
- **Wang Limin**, Deputy Secretary General of the Alashan SEE Foundation, pointed out that "over the past 10 years not only have our members funded a total of 200 million yuan in environmental protection projects, but in particular our organisation and members have spent much time protecting the environment. Over these 10 years our entrepreneurs have put more than 100,000 hours into environmental protection activities and this year there are 20,000 overtime hours, which represents great progress. In addition, by investing time and money entrepreneurs realise that the greatest contribution to a sustainable society is to change their own behaviour and their modes of production."
- **Claire Tutenuit** referred to the commitment of French companies to a carbon-free economy: *"The EPE member companies believe that there are solutions that could 'de-carbonate' the world economy without stopping economic growth."* She said that the EPE brought together major French companies from all sectors which *"share the vision that the environment can be a source of progress and opportunities"*. Their role was especially in *"fostering innovation in solutions and GHG reductions"*.
- *"The fight against climate change is not a cost to the company, it is an investment. It allows us to reduce costs, to have new recipes, it pushes us to innovation, it allows us to anticipate risks and it becomes a competitive advantage."* **Patrick Widloecher** noted.

Taking steps within companies for concrete action in the fight against climate change

The speakers questioned the types of measures for encouraging responsible investment. Innovation and adaptation are at the heart of the corporate role in the fight against climate change. Some presented concrete sustainable solutions developed in their companies.

- **YU Yingzhi**, General Manager of Nantong Yongsheng Wire Company, a producer of heavy industrial steel fibre, was the only speaker to mention the need to implement taxes. *"We need to develop energy efficiency standards and pollution emission steps in the form of carbon taxes to fight against pollution and high energy consumption. We also need to increase the tax on land use and property tax to limit real-estate development operations."* He noted the importance of using the revenues from these taxes for green investments.
- **Karine Bidart** presented achievements by Paris in terms of sustainable development. These included its cooling network, the first in Europe, and projects such as the creation of the Clichy-Batignolles eco-district.
- **Zeng Weijing**, CEO of the Guangdong Wanhe Investment Company, described the construction of an artificial lake and green business park on 133 hectares in the town of Shishan in Guangdong Province. The environmental quality of the area was much improved. Ms Zeng also mentioned her dream of building small eco-cities in China inspired by her European eco-city visits: *"For a long time construction and development has been concentrated on big cities, and small towns were ignored in China. I would like to build small eco-cities respecting culture, tradition and national characteristics."*

- **Sophie Lapierre**, Head of the Environmental Engineering Division at Alterea, spoke about the first project in China with Aden Services. This was the modernisation of lighting and a reduction in lighting consumption at the Shanghai Institute of Health Sciences (SIHS). The introduction of new low-energy lighting has reduced consumption at the institute by 32%.
- **Nicolas Legrand** spoke of reducing Sanofi-Pasteur's carbon impact through construction of vaccine-producing factories in China and Mexico in an approach to reducing transport and consumer needs rapprochement, when the majority of Sanofi-Pasteur's production plants were located in Europe and the United States.
- **Jérémy Fain**, co-founder and president of Verteego, noted that *"in the same way that companies have had a system for managing their financial accounting since the 1980s and for managing their social accounting since the 1990s, there is no reason why they should have no system for managing their greenhouse gas effects."* Beyond GHG management, that is management of energy, waste, water and transport.

Working together to meet the challenges

It is necessary for companies to enter exchanges on the best practices to implement. This is what companies such as EPE and Alashan SEE are doing in France and China.

- **FEI Xiaojing**, Manager at Syn-Tao Sustainability Solutions, the first Chinese consulting firm dedicated to transparency and corporate sustainability, noted that *"more and more Chinese companies are increasingly aware of sustainability issues. I think we, including foreign high-tech companies, governments, NGOs, must all help these companies to put this awareness into action."*
- **Jérémy Fain** put forward a proposal that *"France and China work together to establish in France and in China a set of laws that allow companies making efforts against climate change to earn more money"*.
- **Karine Bidart**, CEO of the Paris Development Agency, highlighted the call for "Reinventing Paris" projects dedicated to the economic development of the French capital. Aimed at enterprises of all nationalities, this aimed to encourage innovation in the use of materials, funding models and new technologies and investment.

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Workshops

At the closing plenary held on 5 December at the Town Hall of the 4th arrondissement of Paris, the reporters of 12 thematic workshops presented summarised conclusions from two days of discussion. Extracts of the conclusions appear below.



Workshop 1: The transition to sustainable cities (Brussels)

In both developed and developing countries there is an urgent need to bring the cities into a transition towards a more sustainable model. Europe has taken the lead in this field and gained much experience, through such initiatives as eco-cities and eco-quarters in England, Sweden and Germany. China has started pilot programmes, but to ensure their success it is necessary to strengthen the platform for dialogue and the sharing of experience on sustainable solutions.



Europe and China should encourage local capacity building in the respective communities using existing technology. Implementing and adapting these technologies to local circumstances is of fundamental importance. In order to accelerate local capacity building, the government should tie civilian society and the private sector into project development by using financial risk insurance, thereby leveraging the effect of public expenditure.

1) Recommendations to policy makers and planners

- Quality of life for all urban citizens is the key performance outcome across all sectors;
- Ensuring long-range planning across jurisdictions and mandates' time-frames;
- Embedding climate responsive design into urban planning process;
- Fostering the circular economy based on renewable energy and a green built environment;
- Local stakeholders and local conditions as drivers for urban strategies;
- Strengthening and protecting cultural heritage and legacy to the new generations;
- Social cohesion is key to resilience, and this relies on people-centered urban spaces.

2) Recommendations to the business sector

- We should think about employment because to make a city you need jobs;
- We should also look at PPP (Public Private Partnerships) and see how these should be implemented in Europe and in Asia;
- We should think about standards, economies of scales, that business could tap into;

- We should think about mapping strategy;
- We need more participation from the business sector;
- We should leverage the force of the market.

3) Recommendation to civilian society

- **Globalisation concept:** how can we adapt global technology to local capacity? And how can we involve all the various stakeholders?
- How can we create multi-modal spaces and multi-functional houses?
- We need to change our way of thinking in order to find solutions;
- We need to become good citizens;
- We have to take into account all stakeholders while bearing in mind that there will be a gap between the levels of entry of each of them. We should accept and respect this difference.

Workshop 2: Sustainable Housing (Lille)

Housing and its role in urban renewal is at the heart of energy transition. In Europe, and particularly in France, social agencies work on energy savings by renovating parts of urban heritage and building energy efficient houses.

- We must move further and work on buildings that produce energy in neighbourhoods while rethinking urban mobility in order to deepen the energy transition and enhance the fight against climate change.
- We must strengthen the sharing of experiences between Chinese and Europeans.



The issue of social ties is essential. The role of aging in the development of housing and urban renewal is important in China and Europe.

The common challenge is to enable people to live as long as possible in their neighbourhoods and in their homes. In European countries, the problem is treated by grouping the elderly in small communities in dedicated housing. In China it is mostly the family that supports the elderly, which is not the case in France and Europe.

Workshop 3: Circular economy, green technology and renewable energy (Lyon)

The circular economy is a space for joint reflection for the Chinese and Europeans. The strategic intent is to contribute to initiating a drastic shift to re-adapt our activities to environmental basics. This includes transverse and systematic thinking, and acting and development of remedial / positive impact projects. This approach offers tremendous opportunities for creativity, improved wellbeing and co-operation.

Recommendations:

- We need a systemic / transverse approach appraising energy / material and waste / water and air topics, as well as cultural and



- education topics, plus innovation, knowledge-sharing of good practices and return on experience;
- Specific concerns apply to resources and waste management:
 - solid waste management (municipal / construction / industry)
 - waste water
 - emissions (toxics and PM) and their impact on health, economics and biodiversity
 - leverage waste to resource process management
 - agriculture
 - energy;
- Importance of acting locally and sharing globally through tangible projects;
- Government / public authority support on non-profit or low-profit waste management activities;
- We need to set up a knowledge-sharing platform on air quality monitoring at a local level – with comparable data collection and exchange of results;
- Develop education material on the interest and importance of the transverse view including agriculture, industry, transport, city planning;
- Special training of CEOs / executives and managers (based on figures / data to facilitate collaboration) outlining the economic perspectives (cost-benefit analysis including external factors);
- Enhance public awareness of the circular economy (including a simple consistent definition);
- Development of green innovations on all circular economy topics in a transverse approach including cultural aspects;
- Specific focus on tourism-related activities and promotion of low-footprint tourism solutions;
- Promote power market reform, understood as not consistent between value, prices and costs. Making changes in regulations and taxation to promote sustainable innovative technologies, with fossil and renewables both paying for the downstream impact of their activities and thus significantly reducing fossil fuel application and battling climate change;
- Build local multi-partner organisations for facilitating local adoption of the circular economy.

Workshop 4: Carbon management, carbon trading and energy transition (Marseille)

Carbon Management: A low-carbon society is created when each of us follows a simple mode of life dedicated to low carbon and sustainable consumption. This means that individuals and companies as well as public authorities follow a low-carbon strategy (transport, energy, etc.).

Better use of energy and technological progress are at the heart of our capacity to tackle climate change. Both the Chinese and European delegations are considering the same range of low-carbon technologies. Implementation, however, would need to reflect different energy mixes and economic structures, industrial GHG emissions abatement technologies and different roles for institutions.

We recognise the different backgrounds and institutional environments between China and Europe. Europe should better address concerns on the competitiveness risks of carbon constraints. China should encourage more stable and liberalised institutions.

We are facing different situations in China and Europe as regards energy. In China there is rapid industrialisation which leads not only to high GHG emissions but also to local pollution. The European Union is also addressing emissions from energy production. We share a common challenge of energy security, which requires diversifying our energy sources, in particular renewable energies.

We agree about the existence of opportunities for exchange on capacity building concerning management of GHG emissions reduction technologies and processes.

We emphasise the importance of providing a long-term view to guide the actions of firms and societies. In addition we support increased involvement from local authorities to help them be more informed of the risks posed by climate change and possible actions at local levels.

Workshop 5: Corporate social responsibility and energy saving (Paris)

The Chinese approach to corporate social responsibility is mainly dedicated to environmental issues. The European approach is primarily based on the concept of sustainable development as three pillars: environmental, social and economic.

Recommendations:

- It is necessary that companies establish in their activities a carbon emission evaluation mechanism and engage in GHG emission reduction projects;
- To defend their interests, companies must actively engage in the elaboration of CO2 emission standards;
- A penalty and reward system could also motivate businesses to apply quotas. They also have a crucial role to play in the management of natural resources and waste treatment;
- Good environmental practices can enhance business productivity and provide a competitive advantage, for example in terms of image. Conversely, negative impact on the environment does not maintain a globally sustainable business.

Five operational objectives:

- Training and awareness are essential prerequisites for business owners, employees and all stakeholders - the citizen in particular has a key role in the political powers commitment;
- Increasing exchanges between companies on best practices;
- Having measurement tools to determine the impact on the environment of business activities. This involves measuring data and processes in order to improve industrial and agricultural processes and so enhance the CSR action of companies in the media;
- Working with all stakeholders, creating links between NGOs, businesses and public authorities;
- Providing SMEs with the human, financial and technological support to participate in the collective transition to a sustainable and responsible economy.

Workshop 6: Sustainable consumption and production (Paris)

Unsustainable consumption and production patterns are the primary cause of environmental degradation, including climate change.

Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) provides life cycle based solutions to achieve the transition from unsustainable to sustainable patterns of consumption and production.



Europe's and China's economy are closely connected through global value chains and solutions to realising SCP must be sought together. Due to the different stages of development of China and Europe, SCP solutions must be adapted to the different conditions on the two continents. An important area for cooperation of Europe and China on SCP is green supply chain management.

In Europe, cleaner production and environmental management in companies has been implemented in most countries. Therefore the main focus now lies on reducing environmental and social impacts resulting from unsustainable consumption patterns in the areas of food, housing and mobility. This not only entails greening of products in the market, but also the reduction of excessive consumption to safe levels and creating lifestyles within the carrying capacity of the planet.



In China, it is first considered that mankind should not engage in excessive and unsustainable consumption compared to the actual level of development and current production. China, like many developing countries, is concerned with first producing sufficient goods in order to reduce poverty and meet all the needs of their people, and dealing with other considerations later. China is facing the double challenge of implementing cleaner production practices and

environmental management in many industry sectors, while at the same time the impacts from consumption of the emerging urban consumer class are becoming obvious.

The recommendations of the workshop are as follows:

- Sharing experiences about reducing the environmental impacts along the whole life cycle of goods and services;
- Focusing on voluntary agreements between local government and industry - Green financing solutions for SMEs as a means of green supply chain management are crucial;
- Harmonising and mainstreaming assessment tools such as life cycle assessment (LCA) to measure environmental impacts of goods and services;
- Encouraging cooperation channels between SME suppliers, multinationals and consumers;
- Developing green supply chains and supporting SMEs in improving environmental performance;
- Not only reducing the carbon footprint, but the overall environmental impact of products;
- Enabling consumers to make sustainable purchase choices with reliable product information and labelling.

Workshop 7: Behaviour of citizens as regards a low-carbon society (Paris)

Awareness of the low-carbon necessity is fundamental to transforming a mode of irrational economic development into sustainable development. Awareness through the dissemination of information and knowledge is also essential. Although Chinese and European companies do not share the same level of awareness on climate change due to differences in historic trajectories and living standards, they have a vision and common goals as regards strengthening decision consciousness.

Educating on and communicating the issues of climate change requires opinion surveys, studies, and programmes in schools, administration and business. These should enrich schemes, beginning in schools with

the principles of responsible behaviour. Activities enabling citizens to experience low-carbon lifestyles should also be organised.

- The principles of responsible behaviour should not only enrich programmes from the beginning of schooling but should also integrate the concepts relating to climate change and assess other similar subjects;
- In order to raise awareness, actions which enable citizens to experiment with different lifestyles and low-carbon behaviour should be organised;
- The new media can open interactivity that contributes to "challenger" top-down communications. They are stakeholders of a new governance with the State, NGOs and businesses;
- Symbolic joint large-scale actions should be organised on both sides of the planet.

Workshop 8: Youth Employment and Energy Transition (Rouen)

To achieve change in the development model, youth employment must be at the heart of energy transition in Europe and China. What is the place of young people? What is their role in companies in the energy transition sector? What strategies for career training are related to sustainable development? How should young people be integrated in the green economy and how should it be made a sustainable source of job creation?

- It is necessary to build an urban ecosystem dedicated to environmental technologies, energy industries, eco-construction and electro-mobility. For the successful integration of young people in this ecosystem, however, we must constantly build bridges between business, higher education and research in order to spread innovation;
- It is necessary to share the experiences of dynamic partnerships between companies / higher education / research;
- We must cooperate on joint methods of consultation with citizens on urban development projects. In Europe more than in China, consultations are very systematic and are more structured in the form of "co-production" of urban projects with the citizens.

Workshop 9: Youth facing climate change challenges (Paris)

Youth is often at the forefront of civic action. It also represents the future of the fight against climate change. We must therefore consider how to encourage youth to participate. First, there are the public authorities which can encourage traditional media and social networks to increase output tailored to youth in order to achieve an "environmental ethic". In order to transform young actors, the media could also offer a participatory experience as "climate journalists", enabling them to observe, undertake field investigations and contribute to the climate debate. Furthermore, it is important to involve young people in decision-making, as illustrated by the Delegates of the United Nations Youth programme.



Recommendations:

- Finding new strategies to better engage youth in climate action on both sides of the globe;
- Sharing and translating knowledge, "toolbox" and other training materials between youth organisations;

- Promoting social projects oriented to climate change (e.g. Young entrepreneurs mobilised on the climate in Europe);
- Organising joint events to make more and more people aware of the situation on climate change – i.e. simulations of international climate negotiations;
- Sharing actions and good practice via social networks quickly and efficiently;
- Organising via universities calls for student projects on the environment as a competition with public funding for winners.

Workshop 10: Justice, environment and climate change (Paris)

Climate change calls for the creation of a universal right capable of producing obligations to all (*erga omnes*). Recognising the climate through providing a special status in international law is urgent but is not considered a legal objective. Today's rules are intended to ensure free trade and investment protection and are weighted against fundamental values, including the environment.

Recommendations:

- Creation of an international climate law or of an international environmental court is at the heart of international issues;
- Rebalancing of the international legal order by developing a new form of accountability built in through an autonomous concept which does not depend on bilateral or multilateral agreements between States. This notion would cite obligations in terms of reaction, communication and justification;
- Creation of a fund benefiting from the transfer of intellectual property on technologies for the fight against climate change;
- Linking of urban planning and environmental planning. This should be accompanied by the recognition of the responsibility of the authorities in charge of environmental planning;
- Considering protection of the environment as having a matrix value aimed at ensuring the integrity of the planet. Traditional international law should be harmonised with criminal law around the notion of eco-crime;
- Constitutionalising of the limitation to two degrees, the maximum amount of CO2 emissions for the rest of the century.



Workshop 11: Funding mechanisms of the energy transition (Paris)

How should energy transition be financed as a key strategy in reducing and adapting to climate change? How should private capital be attracted and public capital be better utilised? What would the modalities of implementation of "unconventional" policy be in order to refinance credits for low-carbon investments? The starting point for reflection is the search for more effective funding mechanisms on a larger scale. The debate can also be focused on the search for new mechanisms in line with the technological revolution of the Internet. A number of platforms of participatory financing (crowd funding) online have been used to finance projects in the energy sector.

Recommendations:

- Generate demand for low-carbon products and services. This can be achieved inter alia by putting a price on carbon. Current carbon pricing instruments include the EU's Emission Trading Scheme and Chinese cap-and-trade schemes;
- The need to incentivise the finance sector to provide favourable financing for low-carbon projects, investment or companies. Among the tools are green bonds, which could enable low-carbon projects to raise low-cost financing;
- Public-private partnerships are also a possibility for providing a framework for financing low-carbon projects;
- The need to educate professionals from the finance industry on low-carbon projects so that they can assess risks relating to low-carbon projects and provide adequate services and potentially lower-cost financing - create a learning platform for educating those professionals;
- Other necessary policy measures: use public money wisely, build piloting tools, and think in terms of clusters;
- Implement and assess carbon pricing schemes;
- Work jointly to assess the possibilities of implementing Smart Unconventional Monetary (SUMO) policies for climate;
- Set up a Green Investment Bank as one of the environmental investment instruments to achieve genuine green economy.

Workshop 12: Water, climate and urbanisation (Geneva)

Water is the first medium through which climate change worsens its impact on mankind and the environment. Water is not a “sector” issue but a resource at the very meeting point of all aspects of human development – including health, nutrition and energy security, environmental protection and reduction of the risks of natural disasters. Water is a fundamental component of all the “eco-systemic services” offered by biodiversity. Good management of sustainable water resources is crucial to the success of strategies aiming at the attenuation of and adaptation to climate change.

Recommendations:

- China and Europe must overcome their respective obstacles to constructive civilian society participation;
- Both China and Europe must align their urbanisation processes with the optimisation of existing water resource use, including regional and trans-boundary water security;
- China and Europe need to invest in high-quality education in the field of environmental protection and climate change to ensure that, in the future, these are addressed in an integrated fashion along with questions of development, local and regional management, disaster risk reduction, etc.;
- China and Europe should promote integrated modern city management – including water, but also involving transport, housing, city mobility, health, energy and social programmes;
- China and Europe should promote the development of new technologies that can effectively address the challenges of water resources management, including the water implications for energy. It should be acknowledged, however, that while technology can be part of the solution it cannot resolve all of our problems. A change in values is also necessary.

✚ Closing plenary session - 5 December

After two days of intense discussion participants of the workshops held in Geneva, Marseilles, Lyons, Brussels, Lille, Rouen, etc., were reunited on Friday 5 December for the closing plenary session.

Two programmes were on the agenda for this session: the report of each workshop to the full assembly to enable all participants to gain an overview of discussions at the 12 workshops, and the conclusions drawn from these four days of dialogue between Chinese and European representatives.

Pierre Calame and **Zhang Renbiao**, Professor at Tongji University in Shanghai, summarised the discussions. At the closing session the Forum was honoured by the presence of the former French Prime Minister **Michel Rocard**. The Secretary-General of the organisation and the host of the COP21, **Pierre-Henri Guignard**, and the Mayor of the 4th arrondissement of Paris, **Christophe Girard**, offered a warm welcome to the 4th China-Europa Forum. The Deputy Secretary-General of the Alashan SEE Foundation, **Wang Limin**, and the Vice-President and Secretary of CANGO, the grouping of Chinese associations, **Huang Haoming**, spoke as representatives of Chinese civilian society.



General Observations

Three major observations were put forward or reaffirmed at the closing session.

1) The fundamental importance of a dialogue between all societies in general and between China and Europe in particular. It is now 100 years since the First World War. After more than half a century of European construction, peace in Europe is now commonplace. But is war so far from us? **Michel Rocard's** conclusion:

"The idea of the China-Europa Forum came from the clear observation that China in its awakening would take part in the leadership of the world. It is already deeply involved in this and this situation



frightens many. There are in the world, and maybe even in China, I know some in the United States, people who think that this disruption of equilibriums, this great change within the balance of power and within relations between the nations of the world is so serious that it would cause intractable problems and end up in military conflict. (...) Every man and woman of peace and good intentions should fight this movement right from the start, immediately and at this very moment."

2) Society to society dialogue is necessary

Michel Rocard: *"The creation of the China-Europa Forum is essentially the realisation and painful affirmation that relations between 1,300,000,000 Chinese and 500,000,000 Europeans is too important to be limited to the relationship between 18 members of a political bureau of the Chinese Communist Party and 28 European Commissioners, or a few members of the government including ours. It does not even make any sense.*

We Europeans have an old tradition that made us realise that nations can achieve great things together through mutual cooperation when not only the governments, but most importantly the civilian societies, the enterprises, the non-governmental organisations, the associations, the individuals, the universities around and behind them, agree and support them.

The fact that Chinese and European civilian societies begin to get together to deliberate gave birth to the common hope that participants to this reunion will create ripples around them and will spread in their university departments, in their local newspapers, the necessary degree of convergence on behaviour for tomorrow that we already reached today."

Professor **Zhang Renbiao** confirmed this view in philosophical style. Through the dialogue of the China-Europa Forum the words that came to his mind were 'going through'. The dialogue passes through time and space, through cultures and societies. He insisted on the necessity of having space for dialogue between Europe and China in order to enhance mutual understanding and avoid cultural conflicts. On that matter, he affirmed:

"I believe that the China-Europa Forum is the best existing public space for dialogue between China and Europe. We have to take full advantage of it. Dialogue and communication are the only way of avoiding conflict and of preserving the future development of the culture of mankind."



The Deputy Secretary General of Alashan, **Wang Limin**, however, was taking part in China-Europa Forum activities for the first time. He shared his impressions:



"A few months back, M Chen Yan wanted to convince us to take part in this great meeting. At first we did not understand. Progressively we realised that we needed a platform to discuss and act. The world is changing and Chinese society is also evolving. Alashan SEE is a rather small partner but it represents the change in our society. We are determined to support the China-Europa Forum. We would like to tell you: You are not alone in this fight. Our Chinese civilian society is joining you to promote cooperation between China and Europe and to act together on the issue of climate change."

In the same spirit **Pierre Calame** underlined a perception that perfectly illustrated the necessity for dialogue and most importantly for a multi-actor dialogue between the two continents.

"I think that it is in line with the spirit of the Forum in both Europe and China; divergences of interests between actors are much stronger than divergences between Europe and China. In other words, a society to society dialogue allows deconstruction of the idea of a European interest that would come up against a Chinese interest. »

3) Reaffirmation of the essential role of civilian society in the fight against climate change



Christophe Girard, Mayor of the 4th arrondissement of Paris, said at the closing session: *"You are important actors in relationships between China and France. France and China have extremely powerful connections. We are seeing the transformation of China. Rather than being afraid of China I think it is better to love. I am one of those who love China, who loves history but especially loves his future."*

The Secretary-General for the organisation of the COP21, **Pierre-Henri Guignard**, reminded us that the French Government supported the emergence of a new participative multilateralism:



"We wished for civilian society to be fully associated with the realisation of this conference. And for the nine pillars of civilian society as they are defined by the United Nations — that is, Non-Governmental Organisations, enterprises, trades union, local authorities, local communities, youth, women, farmers, scientists — to be associated tomorrow at the conference, and not simply be neighbours of the conference or distant witnesses, but direct participants."

He also insisted on the role of enterprises:

"Enterprises are partly responsible, therefore we are all partly responsible for the current situation, but enterprises are also the solution because we will not find satisfying solutions without their participation. Therefore the COP21 will give an important place to enterprises and to the dialogue between enterprises and the other pillars of civilian society. A particular gallery will be assigned to them in a venue very near the conference thus allowing us to have a constant dialogue between the producing world, the consuming world and the governing world."

Michel Rocard:

“Civilian society must encourage governments to accept tough measures in our way of living, of commuting and of excessively consuming natural resources. Governments can lead mankind to suicide if they do not act. Therefore they have to accept binding measures for the entire world.”

Can we reach an agreement at the COP21 in December 2015? **Pierre-Henri Guignard** highlighted that 40,000 people were expected in Paris from 30 November to 11 December 2015. He also stated the ambitions of the COP21: To reach a universal binding agreement whose conditions are still to be defined. Every state must be involved in this process. France is very grateful for the signals sent by China and is ready to work with Beijing.

Results of the workshops

In his summary **Pierre Calame** listed four common points and two divergences in the European and Chinese approaches:

The four common points:

1. **The repeated affirmation by all workshops of the need for cooperation between actors.** There will be no efficient fight against climate change if we keep on thinking that public good is the result of public action and that private actors are only concerned with their private interests.
2. **The affirmation of the necessity of a change of scale.** Three levers for reaching this change are suggested: First education, in particular training for leaders; second, a change in the patterns of thinking; and third an effort on governance.
3. **The shift from the enterprise approach to the industry approach.** We should not talk about corporate social responsibility but rather about the *societal responsibility* of enterprises, which includes relations with suppliers, subcontractors and clients, and thus implies the whole industry.
4. **The central role of cities in the transition, not only as points of implementation for the action carried on by the state, but because it is the place where public good is collectively built.**



Two detected divergences:

- **Action perspectives:** China, which is looking to fill its technological gap and not allowing civilian society to venture onto political ground, is counting a lot on solutions resulting from technological innovation. In Europe we stopped believing in such solutions. The urgency lies in structural change.
- **Means of action:** China's available public funds are significant. Therefore a direct and massive action by the Chinese state in this transition can be considered. In Europe we need to create the conditions to ensure the return on investments.

Part II – Media Coverage in China and in Europe



Organisation of this conference is based on two pillars. The first is the **preparation for mobilisation** in order for this unprecedented meeting on global warming between civilian representatives of both sides to be a success. The second is an **international media campaign** in order to raise public awareness, and Chinese and European government awareness of the opportunity for a global and ambitious agreement on climate.

One of the objectives of the conference, the writing of a common Sino-European text, is also part of this awareness campaign. At the end of 2013 we started discussions and exchanges of ideas with our long-standing and new media partners.

During this media campaign that will last until the COP21 in Paris at the end of December 2015, we can observe that two dimensions of the conference are interconnected and mutually reinforce each other.

We organised a series of **events** in China and in Paris:

- On 29 April 2014 the launch of the media campaign took place at the **Tencent Media Center** in Beijing. On 7 May another launch ceremony for the media campaign was organised in Guangzhou. On this occasion the Policy Adviser to the French Embassy in China, **Thierry Berthelot**, gave a speech in support of the Forum. **Patrick Schroeder**, an expert in the field of sustainable consumption and production within the Switch-Asia Programme of the European Union, highlighted the importance of such a conference in preparations for the COP21. (<http://www.switch-asia.eu/news/-1efb857f59/>)
- On 9 July the Forum organised a preparatory conference at the French Institute of Beijing. At the opening the former French Prime Minister **Michel Rocard** expressed support through a video. The French Ambassador in China, **Sylvie Bermann**, gave an address highlighting the initiative of the Forum in the fight against global warming with a view to the **COP21**. (<http://www.ambafrance-cn.org/Des-acteurs-des-societes-civiles-europeennes-et-chinoise-se-mobilisent-sur-la-lutte-contre-le>)

A first version of the **Common Text** was presented during this highly successful conference. The next day national newspapers such as **China Youth Daily**, one of the main national daily newspapers, published articles on the first version of the Common Text and the challenges raised by global warming. These articles were later mentioned by various large Chinese portals such as **sohu.com**, **ifeng.com**, **163.com**, as well as by the **CCTV** and **Xinhua News** websites.

- On 16 July a second preparatory conference was held in Guangzhou. **Georges Berthoin**, one of the founders of the European Union, and **Bruno Bisson**, the French Consul-General in Guangzhou, expressed their support for the December conference by way of video. Two hundred people from various sectors (officials, enterprises, NGOs, scholars) attended the event and debated the Common Text.

The conference was subsidised and co-organised by the Guangdong Daily Media Group, and the discussion with the public and the media attending was facilitated by the Alashan SEE Foundation (Society of Entrepreneurs for Ecology), the Guangdong Association for Energy Conservation, the Guangdong Research Institute for Energetic Research of the Academy of Sciences and the Sun Yat-sen University Research Center for Environment and Resources of the Planet.

The China-Europa Forum in particular acted as a link between Chinese and European media. Mobilisation of our **18** media and social network partners allowed us to reach a large audience. For instance, in August our Internet platforms received around a million of visits. Sina Weibo alone (China's largest network) recorded 120,000 page views in a month. This media mobilisation resulted in two million searches about our conference on Baidu (China's largest search engine). More than 40 media outlets published articles about our event.

The media campaign

Chinese

- **People's Daily website – www.people.com.cn, official newspaper of the Chinese Communist Party**

In collaboration with the Forum this website created a programme entitled 'China-Europe Dialogue'. The objective is to gather questions from Internet users and submit them to the members of the sponsor committee and to the participants in our conference. **Li Junfeng** and **Du Xiangwan**, two leading figures in charge of the climate file for the powerful Reform and Development Commission, were invited in the months preceding the conference to talk about the challenges raised by global warming. Other leading figures also participated: Professor and Director of the China Center for Climate Change Communication **Zheng Baowei**, Climate Group Greater China Director **Wu Changhua**, and General Representative of the 4D Association **Vaia Tuuhia**.

Many interviews with leading figures on climate and environmental issues were conducted during the conference in Paris. These included interviews with the former French Minister of the Environment **Corinne Lepage** (<http://ft.people.com.cn/fangtanDetail.do?pid=4313>), the President of France Nature et Environnement Denez l'Hostis, geologist and explorer Yan Yong (<http://ft.people.com.cn/fangtanDetail.do?pid=4286>), President of the China-Europa Forum Foundation **Pierre Calame** (<http://ft.people.com.cn/fangtanDetail.do?pid=4333>), the Director-General of DG Environment at the European Commission **Karl Falkenberg** (<http://ft.people.com.cn/fangtanDetail.do?pid=4283>), the Vice-Secretary to the SEE Foundation (Society of Entrepreneurs and Ecology) **Wang Limin**, the Director of the Research Institute for Philanthropy at Beijing Normal University **Wang Zhengyao**, and the President of the China-Europa Forum Association **Paul Trân Van Thinh**.

- **Tencent, the largest Chinese internet portal - www.qq.com.**

A page was created which was dedicated to the activities of the conference organised by the CEF in 2014, including videos, pictures and articles.

In cooperation with the cultural section of the Tencent website, the CEF launched an online series of exhibitions of works by Chinese painters on the theme of '**Art and Environment**'. This artistic approach enables better raising of public awareness on climate change. These exhibitions have gained thousands of views and **hundreds of comments**.

- **Nanfang Media Group, one of the Chinese media giants in the south of the country, mobilised its two press bodies:**

- **The Southern Metropolis Daily, one of the most important semi-independent daily newspapers in the south of China**

A long-standing partner of the Forum, this newspaper attracts a rather young and educated audience. It will cover all the activities organised by the Forum.

- **Kaidi website – www.Kdnet.net. News website launched by Nanfang Media Group**

Within the framework of its partnership with the Forum, Kaidi launched a new dialogue programme: 'China-Europa Forum: China live'. The first show on climate change with Zhou Yongzhang, professor and main writer of the Common Text, and Chen Yan, Executive Director of the CEF, was put online and received more than **70,000 views and 70 comments from Internet users**. (<http://club.kdnet.net/dispbbs.asp?id=10211765&boardid=1>)

- **Guangzhou Daily Media Group, first Chinese media group created in 1996**

- Not only did the group financially support the preparatory conference of the CEF in Guangzhou on 16 July but it is also engaged in covering every activity of the Forum in all of its newspapers and online news websites, including the Guangzhou Daily newspaper and the news website Dayoo.com. The English Internet websites Newsgd.com and *Life of Guangzhou* even put online an English version of their coverage of the preparatory conference.
(http://www.lifeofguangzhou.com/node_981/node_989/node_997/node_1007/2014/07/17/1405573226152322.shtml)

- **China Education Daily, official newspaper of the Ministry of Education**

The Forum coordinated a partnership with China Education Daily. **A drawing contest targeted at secondary school and high-school students across the country** was organised together with **an awareness-raising survey also targeting students**. Some 322 drawings have been received and the best 31 have been shown in the framework of the exhibition on environmental and art protection on 5 December in Paris.

- **Phoenix website (Fenghuang) – www.ifeng.com. A website related to Phoenix TV, a Hong Kong based television broadcasting throughout the Chinese world.**

The website created a blog dedicated to the China-Europa Forum conference and the Common Text. The latter received more than 137,000 views and more than 100 comments. Leading figures invited to give their opinion on the text included: the Director of the China-Europa Forum, Chen Yan; the Director of the China Center for Climate Change Communication, Zheng Baowei; the Director of the Center of National Strategy on Climate of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), Li Junfeng; and Qin Dahe, President of IPCC Working Group I (and thus co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007), Member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.

http://blog.ifeng.com/zhuanli/special/2014ce_forum/

- **China Dialogue Beijing Office, the first Sino-English news website specialised in environmental issues**

The website conducted in-depth interviews with the members of the sponsor committee, particularly with experts on environmental issues. These included the international environmental law expert **Li Bin** and the Manager of the NGO Ecological Development Union International **Huang Haifeng**.

● Voyage magazine

This magazine portrayed leading personalities in the history of environmental protection in China. Among these were Yang Yong, a famous geologist and independent explorer who dedicated his life to the rivers and mountains of his country; Liang Congjie, founder of the first Chinese NGO for environmental protection 'Friends of Nature', and Wang Yongchen, founder of the NGO Green Earth Volunteers, a woman deeply involved in the campaign initiated by civilian society against dam projects on the Nu river in the early 2000s. <http://www.china-europa-forum.net/article4278.html>

● China Youth Online

China Youth Online relayed the importance of a dialogue between young people in the fight against climate change. The issue was central to the China-Europa Forum conference and more particularly to the workshops 'Education, communication and climate' and 'Youth employment and energy transition'. http://zqb.cyol.com/html/2014-07/16/nw.D110000zgqnb_20140716_3-06.htm

● China Daily

At the conference's closing session on 5 December 2014, China Daily launched its special edition "Climate Watch" in partnership with the China-Europa Forum. The newspaper also published articles on the conference and climate issues in its editions of 28 November and 5 December 2014.

http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/epaper/2014-12/05/content_19030798.htm

http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/epaper/2014-11/28/content_18991000.htm

http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/epaper/2014-11/28/content_18991002.htm

European

● Libération

In two articles on pollution and CO2 emissions in China, the newspaper Libération introduced the conference of December 2014. In these articles the Director of the China-Europa Forum, Chen Yan, and the Director of the Center of National Strategy on Climate of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), Li Junfeng, were interviewed on the situation in China and the objectives of the Chinese Government.

➤ *Climat : Pékin très moyen (24 September 2014)*

http://www.liberation.fr/economie/2014/09/24/climat-pek-in-tres-moyen_1107742

➤ *La Chine fait un pas timide vers la réduction de ses émissions de gaz à effets de serre (12*

November 2014) http://www.liberation.fr/terre/2014/11/12/la-chine-fait-un-pas-timide-vers-la-reduction-de-ses-emissions-de-gaz-a-effet-de-serre_1141613

● Le Figaro: Conversation with Li Junfeng

The newspaper Le Figaro conducted an interview with Li Junfeng who is the Director of the Center of National Strategy on Climate of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC). The interview was published on 12 December 2014.

<http://www.lefigaro.fr/sciences/2014/12/12/01008-20141212ARTFIG00391-la-chine-devra-limiter-sa-consommation-de-charbon.php>

● RFI (Radio France International) programme “C’est pas du vent”

Journalist Anne-Cécile Bras invited participants in the conference to participate in the second part of the programme ‘C’est pas du vent’ which was dedicated to climate issues and focused on the following question: *Climate: Are China’s engagements believable?* Among the guests were the Vice-President and Executive Director of the grouping of Cooperation Association of Chinese NGO (CANGO – China Association of NGO Cooperation) Huang Haoming; Professor at the People’s University of Beijing and Director of the National Center for broadcasting and media coverage on climate issues Zheng Baowei; Professor at the Huifeng Business School of Beijing University Huang Haifeng; and the Director of the China-Europa Forum Chen Yan.

<http://www.rfi.fr/emission/20141206-2-climat-engagements-chine-sont-ils-credibles-pollution/>

● Natura-sciences

Natura-sciences put the Common Text and the preparations for the conference on its website and social networks where it is very active.

<http://www.natura-sciences.com/environnement/forum-chine-europe-conference786.html>

<http://www.natura-sciences.com/environnement/accord-climati-chine-etats-unis790.html>

<http://www.natura-sciences.com/environnement/cop21-forum-chine-europe743.html>

● Sortir du pétrole.com

The website **Sortir du pétrole** (moving on from the oil era) also published the Common Text and information about the conference of December 2014. In this article Chen Yan, Executive Director of Green Cross France et Territoires Nicolas Imbert and the general representative of the 4D Association Vaia Tuuhia, discussed the role of China in the fight against climate change. <http://www.sortirdupetrole.com/societe/280-pres-de-200-chinois-a-paris-pour-repenser-notre-modele-de-developpement-global>

● Media Pep’s

Dominique Martin-Ferrari, researcher, producer and committed activist, wrote an article dedicated to the conference and the Common Text on Media Pep’s website. <http://www.mediapeps.org/option-future/forum-chine-europe-le-3-decembre-a-paris-300-chinois-a-paris/>

● Normandie-Actu and My76tv

Normandie-Actu and My76tv website broadcast the coming to Rouen of members of the Chinese delegation who gathered in the Normandy town to participate in one of the 12 workshops devoted to youth employment and energy transition.

http://www.normandie-actu.fr/changement-climatique-une-delegation-chinoise-a-rouen_103112/

<http://www.my76.tv/metropole-rouen-normandie-ville-rouen-accueillent-delegation-chinoise-cadre-preparation-conference-paris-climat/>

● Lyon Capitale

Lyon Capital magazine announced the workshop ‘Circular economy, green technologies and energy transition’ co –organised by Green Cross France et Territoires and EDUI (Ecological Development Union).

<http://www.lyoncapitale.fr/Journal/Lyon/Actualite/Economie/Le-forum-Chine-Europe-s-invite-a-Lyon>

Part III – Perspectives

Background

Focused on climate change and sustainable development, the 4th China-Europa Forum is not the largest in terms of numbers of participants. In 2005, in its first edition on European construction held in Nansha, China, the Forum had already mobilised more than 400 participants. Eight hundred people had attended in the 2nd and 3rd events held in Brussels in 2007 and Hong Kong in 2010.

The mobilisation involved in this issue goes beyond the number of participants at the four days of conference and workshops. Some 300 Chinese NGOs in the environmental field, particularly the leading ones, have at one time or another been involved in the process of raising awareness about the theme of the forum: either making the trip to Paris for the conference or by participating in the various meetings held in China through 2014 and by actively participating in the development of the Common Text.

Many entrepreneurs in the private sector have responded to our call to participate in the Forum through the Alashan-SEE Foundation and other organisations.

On the European side, the China-Europa Forum is supported by 30 NGOs and political or socio-economic organisations and institutions such as the Preparatory Committee of the COP21 in France, the DG Environment of the EU, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Social Union for Housing, Green Cross International, Green Cross France and Territories, the 4D Association, France Nature Environment, AFEP, EPE and others. Many local authorities are also supporting us including the City of Paris, the Rhône-Alpes region, the PACA region and the cities of Rouen, Brussels Environment, Geneva, etc.

Thirty influential people in Europe and China showed their support by agreeing to be members of the Conference Steering Committee and to grant an interview with our media partners. They included Herman Van Rompuy, former President of the European Council; Jean-Pascal van Ypersele, Vice-President of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC); Michel Rocard, former French Prime Minister; Edgar Morin, sociologist and philosopher; Qin Dahe, co-chair of the First Working Group of IPCC; Du Xiangwan, Director of the National Expert Committee on Climate Change; Ronan Dantec, Senator of Loire-Atlantique; Corinne Lepage, former French Environment Minister; Li Junfeng, Director of the National Climate Strategy Center (National Commission for Development and Reform - NDRC); Wang Yi, Director of the Research Group on Sustainable Development; Ren Zhiqiang, Chairman of the Society of Entrepreneurs & Ecology (SEE); the Chairman of Beijing Huayuan Property; Francine Cousteau, President of the Cousteau Society; and Yuan Xikun, painter and world-renowned sculptor.

Foreshadowing the world of tomorrow

One of the characteristics of the 4th China-Europa Forum is manifested by a dynamic of collective mobilisation. This dynamic is moving towards a global process and schedule, which is the COP21 in December 2015 in Paris.

Entitled "Climate Change, Rethink the Model of Global Development", this conference is, in the words of **George Berthoin**, "an original contribution of civilian society in China and Europe... the front guard, foreshadowing the world of tomorrow".

We are probably at an historic turning point for the world, a time that is both a hinge and special. The special feature of this era is that the turn is not automatic. It needs to be entered into in order to happen. What awaits us beyond the turn is either a disaster or a better world. The future of the planet depends on our collective intelligence. For once the whole of humanity is involved in its responsibilities. We need an awareness of the seriousness of the situation. And this is probably the second feature on the eve of turning: Awareness of the annunciation of the birth of a new time and the collective will to bring a positive response. This is probably the most significant message of the 4th Forum.

Georges Berthoin noted: *“Our civilian societies advertise and promote system change, the invention of new forms of governance, the transformation of the source of all future legitimacy, whatever the channels through which they are expressed.”*

In order that this hope does not remain Utopian, he appeals to the intelligence of those two old and powerful civilisations, Chinese and European:

“Our respective success in the organisation of relations between us and with major global players will play a central role in the response of humanity to all the challenges of the new times. This will depend on how we respond to climate change. It is necessary that we are aware. Our responsibility is clear, because the answer is now at hand.”

Using other words **Pierre Calame** insists on the ruptures which are necessary to address the common challenges and to design a new development model. Some advanced ideas include:

- Creating a new global forum on the environment, transcending sovereignty;
- Organising the co-production of public good, developing a theory and practice of co-responsibility of actors;
- Rebalancing the international legal order by developing a new form of accountability built into an autonomous concept which does not depend on bilateral or multilateral agreements between states;
- Creating a "Green Investment Bank" designed as one of the environmental investment instruments for achieving a real green economy.

Perspective of actions

Let us be optimistic and take action together for a better world tomorrow! This conclusion directly raises the question about the role of the China-Europa Forum. **Who can lead the dialogue between companies? What can we do together? What do we have to say?** After the Forum, **Pierre Calame** suggested two tracks:

- ❖ *The first is to truly be a platform for platforms. The workshop on the sustainable city says it is not there to create a great network of cities but to create a platform to share experiences. This is the challenge: How we ensure that this forum becomes a real platform for exchanging experiences and reflections, built to last.*
- ❖ *The second dimension is our ability to question. Is the function of dialogue between companies simply to say that we accept our own responsibility on our scale, or that we recognise a duty to question our states, to question the nature of international negotiations by saying and repeating*

that the necessary ruptures today are not committed or even conceived and it is our duty to contribute?

To this we can add a third: the ability to propose. **In 10 years the China-Europa Forum has built a network of influence with partners in different social groups: NGOs, universities, political, social and economic or scientific institutions and especially with the media in China and Europe.** With this conference we have consolidated and expanded this network. At the same time we refocused, keeping the best of our traditions, to combine the diversity of approaches with a global vision, and we now need to specify our objectives. In other words, it is time for the Forum to take action and invent other forms of cooperation, more concrete and more incentive minded.

During the four days of discussions, suggestions and recommendations were numerous.

- The first order of ideas concerns the desire to continue to consolidate this cross-border and cross-cultural platform for multi-stakeholder dialogue and to share experiences;
- The second concerns the sharing and circulation of knowledge;
- The third is citizen networking and ideas on different scales internationally.

In order to act accordingly, **the China-Europa Forum will:**

- 1) Strengthen and expand the public space established by the Forum in improving its tradition to gathering the various actors in civilian society for dialogue.
- 2) Contribute to the networking on both sides. The Forum will develop its capacity for networking that could occur in cities and between cities and businesses. This networking could also be extended to experts, NGOs and the media. The objectives may be multiple: To promote the circulation of knowledge and new green technologies, to exchange experiences and propose joint projects, etc.
- 3) Contribute to the development of the formation of political and economic leaders in ecological transition matters. Complementarity between China and Europe provides very favourable conditions for exchange and training.
- 4) Contribute to the development of pilot projects by promoting exchanges of experts and think-tank work in order to promote and encourage proposals of solutions and initiatives of different scales.
- 5) Continue the work on climate change started in 2014 with a view to putting the Forum in tune with the COP 21 in Paris, and particularly in the Common Text finalisation process.

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Appendixes:

Running of Conference Project (April-December 2014)

Five highlights

- **29 April 2014: Launch of the media campaign.** The Forum organised the launch of the media campaign for the conference at the **Tencent Media Center in Beijing**
- **7 May 2014: Launch of the media campaign in Canton**
- **9 July 2014: Preparatory conference in Beijing**
- **16 July 2014: Preparatory conference in Guangzhou**
- **20 November 2014: Press conference in Paris**

1-5 December 2014: Conference in Europe

● **1 December: Dinner meeting for French and Chinese entrepreneurs**

A number of Chinese and French entrepreneurs met on 1 December at a dinner organised by the China-Europa Forum at the Brasserie Mollard in Paris. Some 40 entrepreneurs willing to establish close relationships for the development of their activities shared their desire to protect the environment and compare their experiences regarding sustainable development. They exchanged views the evening before the opening session. This dinner was financed by the AFEF, the French Private Enterprise Association, which wished to support this initiative.

● **2 December: Opening Session**

The opening session, hosted by co-founder of the China-Europa Forum, Pierre Calame, took place on the morning of 2 December at the Town Hall of the 4th arrondissement of Paris. The opening plenary session concluded with a ceremony of support by the China-Europa Forum during which five prizes were awarded:



- The Environmental Organisation Prize was awarded to the **Alashan SEE Foundation (Society of Entrepreneurs & Ecology)**
- The Defender of the Environment Prize was awarded to the **Secretary-General of the Chengdu Urban Rivers Association Tian Jun.**
- The Low-Carbon Enterprise Prize was awarded to **China Vanke.**
- The Green City Prize was awarded to **Changbaishan.**
- The China-Europa Dialogue Prize was awarded to **Pierre Calame**, Honorary President of the Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation for the Progress of

Humankind (FPH) and **Wang Zhengyao**, Director of the Research Institute for Philanthropy of Beijing Normal University.

On the afternoon of 2 December participants met for discussions at three themed roundtables:

- A roundtable focusing on the issue of **urban transition**, held in the Town Hall of the 4th arrondissement of Paris
- A roundtable focusing on the issue of the **positioning of enterprises**, held in the Town Hall of the 3rd arrondissement of Paris
- A roundtable focusing on the **role of NGOs**, held in the Town Hall of the 13th arrondissement of Paris.

- **3 and 4 December: Two days of exchanges through 12 workshops in six cities in France, Belgium and Switzerland**
- **5 December: Closing session**

Opening of the 'Art and environmental protection' exhibitions

Before the closing plenary session, the opening of the exposition 'Art and environmental protection' was held at the Hotel Chinagora. This exhibition, designed to help Chinese and European artists raise public awareness about climate issues, gathered together well-known artists and Chinese students committed to the climate cause. Two famous artists, **Lin Minggang** and **François Bossière**, gave addresses during which they explained their artistic approach and their engagements in terms of environmental protection.



The world renowned visual artist and environmental activist **Yuan Xikun** presented a calligraphy work entitled 'The Nature' to the exhibition.



The remainder of the exhibition brought together 31 drawings from high-school and college students, laureates of the drawing contest 'Beautiful China, Beautiful Planet' organised by the daily newspaper China Education Daily and the China-Europa Forum. These drawings were selected from thousands. Full of imagination they gave an overview of young people's vision of the future of the planet between realism, invention and optimism.



Closing session

After the exhibition opening, participants met at the Town Hall of the 4th arrondissement of Paris for the closing session of the conference.

The last day of the conference ended with **the launch of the Climate Watch special edition of China Daily** in partnership with the China-Europa Forum and held in the presence of **Fu Jing**, Chief Correspondent of the Europe office of China Daily, and **Ji Tao**, Head of the Europe office of China Daily and Deputy Editor-in-Chief.



From Paris to Lima COP20:

Executive Director Chen Yan and some of the China-Europa Forum team travelled to Lima shortly after the conference. On 8 and 9 December the Forum therefore took part in the third tripartite meeting between China, Europe and South America organised within the framework of the People's Summit.

On 11 December, at the Andean Parliament press service situated at the same venue as the COP20, a ceremony was organised for the handing in of the Common Text in the presence of **Chen Yan**; **Zhang Baowei**, Professor at the People's University of Beijing and at the Institute for Information Sciences, Director of the China Center for Climate Change and Communication; and **José F. Cornejo**, Counsellor of Alberto Adrianzen, Member of the Andean Parliament. This initiative was covered by local newspapers:

<https://storify.com/Ralva/peru-conclusiones-de-la-sociedad-civil-china-europ#publicize>
<http://peruinforma.com/actualidad/presentan-conclusiones-del-dialogo-de-la-sociedad-civil-china-europea-para-enfrentar-el-cambio-climatico/>



Partner institutions and organisations:



Alashan SEE Foundation

Founded in 2004 by a group of a hundred entrepreneurs, the Alashan SEE Foundation or SEE (Society of Entrepreneurs for Ecology) is today the major financial support for green NGOs in China. It is involved in environmental protection for the whole country. <http://see.sina.com.cn/en/>



Town halls of the 3rd, 4th and 13th arrondissements of Paris



The 4D Association (Dossiers et Débats pour le Développement Durable) was created following the Rio Earth Summit in 1992. It is gathering knowledge and expertise on sustainable development and contributes to raising awareness on the challenges involved. The Association is active on the international, national and local levels. <http://www.association4d.org/>



Green Cross International & Green France et Territoires: Green Cross International was founded following the Rio Earth Summit (1992) by the former leader of the USSR Mikhail Gorbachev. Its mission is to contribute to raising living standards and social and economic progress in every country on the planet. The French branch is Green Cross et Territoires. <http://gcft.fr/>



France Nature Environnement: Representative of a movement embracing 3000 organisations, France Nature Environnement (FNE) is the French federation of environmental and nature protection associations. It raises public awareness and takes court action when environmental law is violated. <http://www.fne.asso.fr/>



Asia Presse: An association of journalists specialised in Asia.



European New Towns Platform: This organisation has been created by the European Union and gathers pilot projects in urban development, fast-growing new cities and towns in a network in which many member states of the EU and international partners take part.

Other Partners:



About China-Europa Forum

The China-Europa Forum (CEF) was established in October 2005 as an initiative of the Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation for the Progress of Humankind (FPH) and the Association of Chinese Intellectuals in Europe, with the support of the Henry Fok Foundation and the Macau Foundation. It was born of the desire of many Chinese intellectuals to understand better the construction of the European Union and to see what lessons could be drawn from this for China. From China's standpoint, Europe has a number of interesting aspects. A highly populated continent with limited natural resources, it seeks a balance between unity and diversity, and between market efficiency and social justice. It is also a pioneer in the transition to sustainable societies.

The CEF has initiated multifaceted reflection in the face of the environmental, social and governance challenges to which it wishes to respond. Its ambition is to create a social space for society-to-society dialogue, to organise the debate of ideas and to promote exchanges in the search for answers to common challenges. Biennial forums organised alternately in China and Europe ensure the dialogues between societies happen.

In 2005 the initial meeting of the CEF took place in Nansha, south China. **In 2007** the second Plenary Meeting was held in Brussels with 850 participants. Forty-six thematic 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 Meeting was organised around 60 thematic workshops which were held across China and culminated in a plenary meeting in Hong Kong bringing together 700 participants.

With its networks, methods of consultation and experience, **the China-Europa Forum launched three platforms for China-EU dialogues: "Tripartite Dialogue China-Europe-South America", "Debate: Macau and China-Europe", and the "EU-China Partnership on Urbanisation".**

In 2012 the CEF participated in the first edition of the EU-China Mayors Forum, held in Brussels. In April 2013 the CEF co-organised with the China Centre for Urban Development (CCUD), with support from the European Union's Energy Directorate-General, a roundtable on "Perspectives of EU Cooperation - China on Urbanisation" within the framework of the "China International Urbanisation Forum" held in Shanghai. From 16 to 19 November 2013 the China International Urbanisation Development Strategy Research Committee (CIUDSRC), the law firm JunZeJun, the EU Energy Directorate-General and the China-Europa Forum co-organised the forum "Europe-China Partnership on Urbanisation" in Guangzhou. A few days later the CEF attended the "EU-China Forum on Urbanisation" in Beijing. Since 2014 the Forum has been focusing on mobilising civilian society to address climate change challenges.

The CEF is headquartered in Paris with offices in Brussels, Beijing and Guangzhou. In 2010 it established an office in Chengdu in association with the Chengdu Association of Science and Technology. In 2012 it created the China-Europe Polytechnique Centre at the University of Hong Kong. In 2013 it initiated and founded in Guangzhou the NGO FAZE Urbanisation and Wellbeing Institute.

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