

CHINA EUROPE

Water Platform

Work Programme

Approved by Joint Steering Committee 27.6.2018



China Europe Water Platform Work Programme 2018-2019

1. Background

In March 2012, the China Europe Water Platform (CEWP) was launched at the 6th World Water Forum in Marseille, France, where a Joint Statement was signed between Mr. CHEN Lei, Minister of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China and Ms. Ida Auken, Danish Minister of the Environment, representing the Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

As stated by the Joint statement, with the support of the EU Water Initiative (EUWI) and based on reciprocity and mutual benefit, CEWP was established to achieve the objectives of realising good governance in managing water resources, enhancing mutual understanding on approaches in integrated water resources policy development and implementation, promoting the exchange of innovative knowledge and technologies to meet common challenges, creating opportunities for private sector and research institutes on both sides to undertake business development and joint research programs of common interest.

According to the Declaration signed at the CEWP high-level Conference in Finland in 2017, during the next two years the CEWP will focus on reaching the UN Sustainable Development Goals associated with water and promoting a water-related circular economy. This takes place via even deeper water partnership between the EU and China and by increased cooperation with other international players in the water sector, not only in Europe and China but also outside.

CEWP Work Programme provides an overall framework for the development and implementation of CEWP. It is a living working document which is updated as needed and approved yearly in Joint Steering Committee. It envisages a broad picture for CEWP in the long term and reflects the expectation from China and EU for CEWP.

The Work Programme has been prepared by the European Secretariat, which is hosted by Finland for the years 2018-2019 and the Chinese Secretariat, which is hosted by the Ministry of Water Resources, in consultation with European Member States and the EU Delegation to China.

2. CEWP Partnership Instrument project

The EU has supported CEWP with € 6 million through the so-called Partnership Instrument (PI), based on € 1,5 mio in co-financing from the participants, totaling 7,5 mio € for 5 programs to support the platform. The Programs will encompass the four existing (vertical) Focus Areas of



CEWP, as well as a new, horizontal Activities Program. The Programs are led by these Consortia (European Lead partners mentioned, working together with Chinese partners):

Lot 1 - River Basin Management and Ecological Security

- International Office for Water, France (Lead Partner)

Lot 2 - Rural Water and Food Security

- Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland, Denmark (Lead Partner)

Lot 3 - Water and Urbanization

- Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment-Rijkswaterstaat, The Netherlands (Lead Partner)

Lot 4 - Water and Energy Security

- Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SwAM), Sweden (Lead Partner)

Lot 5 - Horizontal Activities

- Danish Environmental Protection Agency, Denmark (Lead Partner)

The overall objective of Lot 1: Water management & ecological security is to co-create new information, knowledge and recommendations on water management and ecological security, together with Chinese partners based on IWRM/NEXUS/ River basin approaches. Learning from European practices and adapting them to better fit in natural and socioeconomic environment in China, the new knowledge will be used in strategic policy dialogues with Chinese counterparts, promotion of governance, co-design of strategic plans within water sector and links with other sectors organised by the Focus Area and the Horizontal activity of the CEWP.

The overall objective of Lot 2: Rural Water and Food Security is to support formulation and implementation of Chinese policies, legislation, standards and measures, which will enable better management, use and protection of groundwater resources and increased coverage of safe groundwater-based water supply and to ensure sustainable food production in rural areas. The approach will take departure in EU policies and the thinking behind the Water Framework Directive, the Groundwater Directive, and the Nitrates Directive thus providing a good basis for introducing European solutions and technologies in the Chinese Market.

The overall objective of Lot 3 - Water and Urbanization is to enhance EU-CN Water Cooperation on water management in urban (delta) areas with activities leading to policy, regulation and management recommendations. The focus is on the Sponge City Concept (SCC): “Restore the city’s capacity to absorb, infiltrate, store, purify, drain and manage rain water and regulate the water cycle as much as possible to mimic the natural hydrological cycle”.

The Lot 4 Water and Energy Security SHUI-ChE project aims to develop and enhance co-generation and exchange of knowledge by synthesizing and sharing experiences and best practices between EU and China within four different thematic focus areas that cover both the “green” and “blue” dimension of sustainable hydropower. In addition, the SHUI-ChE project also



aims to establish an EU-China Sustainable Hydropower Innovation Network (ECSHIN) as a facilitating platform to enhance EU-China cooperation through: Exchange among relevant cross-sectorial stakeholders in EU and China; Development of innovation and business activities in the water-energy sector; and Promotion of the “Source to Sea” concept and its potential application in EU and China.

The Lot 5: Horizontal Activities Program is a new organizational dimension, which include three work packages. WP1 will include ensure coordination and coherence internally of the five Lots, dialogue with key external stakeholders, and support for the Secretariat. WP2 focusing on *Business and Innovation* will aim at strengthening the business pillar of CEWP, in close co-operation with the four other Lots. Finally, WP3 will focus on new and emerging policy issues, also in close co-operation with the four other Lots. These include the SDGs; the Source-to-Sea concept; Economic Instruments and Circular Economy; Emerging Policy Issues e.g. Climate Change.

3. Objectives and Activities

The goal of CEWP Work Programme is to achieve CEWP’s expected objectives through implementing concrete activities, enhancing visibility of CEWP and promoting China-EU exchange and cooperation.

According to the Joint Statement, CEWP will realize its objectives through promoting policy dialogue, joint research and business cooperation. Furthermore, activities aimed at developing CEWP towards more strategic partnership will be carried out. Therefore the objectives and activities are categorized under three pillars and coordination as follows.

Pillar 1: Policy dialogue.

Pillar 2: Joint Research.

Pillar 3: Business Cooperation.

Platform Coordination and Development.

The Objectives and Activities are presented in Table 1 and Table 2.



Table 1. CEWP Work Programme Long and Short Term Objectives

Pillars	Long Term Objectives	Short Term Objective
1 Policy dialogue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote EU-China long-term dialogue and cooperation on water conservation as a response to the global water crisis. Promote EU-China cooperation to reach the goals linked to water security in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in EU, China and beyond. Promote good governance to tackle the challenges related with water security. Assess links between water, food and energy security and externalities of sectoral policy plans Enhance long term sustainability of water and hydropower infrastructures development through policy synthesis, stakeholder engagement and dialogue, co-generation and exchange of knowledge 	<p>Secretariats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organise joint Steering Committee Meeting, European Coordination Meetings and Annual High-Level Meetings the Focus Areas in their activities and all stakeholders involved in these activities Establish communication and potential co-operation between CEWP and international organisations, including financing institutions Assist new EU Member States and Chinese organizations to become members of the CEWP <p>River Basin Management & Ecological Security:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute to improve water management in pilot, to create an enabling environment for lessons learning and to improve institutional organization and practices in water management in China through the provision of policy recommendations (green papers). <p>Rural Water & Food Security:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exchange knowledge and best practices on all aspects of groundwater management and arrive at a set of best practices, which can be recommended for consideration and application in China and in Europe. <p>Water & Urbanization:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance EU-CN water cooperation on water management in urban (delta) areas with a focus on the Sponge City Concept <p>Water & Energy Security:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the implementation of the 13th Five-Year Plans in China for water and energy, as well as hydropower and renewables developments.
2 Joint Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To facilitate a further increase in joint research and also improved scientific and private sector co-operation in the water sector. To advance innovative water solutions for green development and circular economy. To advance water modernization through promoting smart water technologies. 	<p>Secretariats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve framework conditions for research and business. This will include both a focus on identification and improvement of financing opportunities, in particular alignment of Horizon 2020 and CN Most Tech Support Program and Identification of other Funding Sources <p>River Basin Management & Ecological Security:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> promote knowledge, research innovation, business and dialogue for water management and ecological security through the development of targeted dialogue activities, policy studies and pilot projects. The main issue is to help engage governmental institutions administrations, stakeholders, businesses, researchers and other relevant stakeholders for a future comprehensive implementation on Integrated Water Resource Management and Ecological Security practices in China.

		<p>Rural Water & Food Security:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • share and disseminate experience and knowledge on restoration and protection of groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDE) by implementing EU experience and to provide an understanding of groundwater-surface water interactions, which have mutual influence on the water quality and quantity of the whole water cycle • share and disseminate experience and knowledge on water saving irrigation technologies, and the environmental, social and economic impact of their implementation • investigate the possibilities for enhancing the use of MAR in China for groundwater restoration especially to reduce problems related to the water supply for irrigation. It is also used for restoring already overexploited aquifers as a result of unregulated or unsustainable use of groundwater for various purposes <p>Water & Urbanization:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • exchange and further development of Sponge City Concepts and addresses the main issues for successful implementation; decision support tools; integrated approach; sustainability; cost effectiveness; financing and the institutional frame work <p>Water & Energy Security:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the implementation of the 13th Five-Year Plans in China for water and energy, as well as hydropower and renewables developments.
<p>3 Business Cooperation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To facilitate cooperation between private sectors in China and Europe. • To create opportunities for private businesses and research communities to strengthen their joint activities for improving water security. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development and promotion of the technical solutions, business cases and adjoined regulatory changes of tomorrow through addressing the challenges of today • To facilitate dialogues on factors impacting the Water Sector stemming from regulatory requirements, drivers from other sector leading to e.g. increased water allocation demands, climate change, increased focus on resource-used efficiency and digitalization, increased focus of Financial Stakeholders on Return of Investments and Sustainability. • To facilitate the setting up of strategic collaborative innovation projects between European and Chinese “challenge owners” and “solutions providers” in the water segment through the organization of dedicated matchmaking events. • To stimulate development of new technical solutions and outline of new business solutions for a market-based implementation, supported by recommendations for adjustments of economic instruments in order to implement circular economy goals reg efficiency of water-related resources.

Platform Coordination and Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To facilitate long-term and effective operation of CEWP. To revise organisation and working mechanisms of CEWP. Overall coordination between Partnership Instrument project and other CEWP activities. Attract more EU MS and Chinese Ministries and Provinces to become active members of the Platform. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revise the Structure of CEWP Formulate Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure for CEWP bodies: Joint Steering Committee, the Secretariat and Focus Areas Initiate discussions with potential new members of the Platform
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Table 2. CEWP Activities 2018-2019.

Pillars	Activities (supported by PI project)	
	2018	2019
1 Policy dialogue	<p>Secretariats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate high-level dialogue between EU and China; CEWP Annual High-Level Conference in China Assistance to Estonia and Hungary for joining the CEWP activities Establish communication and potential collaboration with EIB, GGGI, WssTP <p>Lots</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lot 1: Preparation of policy recommendations to be presented at the Annual Conference: final version on River restoration, 1st draft on participative RBMP planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Elaboration of notes based on background studies and feedback from pilot experiences * Organisation of workshops to present and exchange on the draft notes with representatives from all administrations concerned by the subject, Research centres and stakeholders Lot 2: Organisation of a Policy Dialogue workshop on Relations of PI RURAL (Rural Water and Food Security) to SDGs for China and the EU 	<p>Secretariats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate high-level dialogue between EU and China; CEWP Annual High-Level Conference in Portugal Continue contacts with other international organisations <p>Lots</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lot 1: Preparation of recommendations/policy papers: Final version on participative RBMP planning, 1st draft on Best practices for lakes management; Seminar on payment for ecosystem services, Workshop on water quality protection Lot3: City to City Learning study tour to Europe and two missions to Beijing and Changde Lot 4: Workshop for articulating and assessing the opportunities of integrated water and energy planning; EU-China sustainable hydropower innovation network (ESCHIN) Annual Event on green small hydro in the context of Yangtze Economic Belt eco-environment restoration

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lot 3: Organize partner meetings, two missions to Beijing and Changde and EU-China Sponge City Conference • Lot 4: Organize exchange seminar in China on the current development of the PSH in China and opportunities for enhancing EU-China cooperation and Joint workshop in Beijing on Hydro-wind-solar integrated planning and power market design and reform 	
2 Joint Research	<p>Lot 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elaboration of Annual Report on Funding Opportunities for Innovation Projects • Initiate dialogue with EU DG RTD and CN MST about alignment of Funding Calls • Assist WaterJPI to take further steps for including China as a party to JPI <p>Lot 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint research and improved scientific/public/private sector co-operation will be highlighted within the implementation of river basin management undertaken in 3 different and complementary pilot basins : Luan sub-basin within Hai basin, Taihu lake and Lake Pyhäjärvi, Nanxi River and Gardiana watershed <p>Lot 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline analysis on hydroecological characteristics of the karst GDEs • Generalising test results from surface-groundwater interaction modelling • Irrigation baseline analysis • Modelling of water saving irrigation technologies at farm and irrigation system scale • Assessment of the potential of using different water sources (reclaimed wastewater, lake and river water, rain- and storm water) for MAR to restore overexploited aquifers and discussion of the possibilities and limitations - especially in terms of quality aspects - within the current legislation. 	<p>Lot 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elaboration of Annual Report on Funding Opportunities for Innovation Projects • Dialogue with EU DG RTD and CN MST about alignment of Funding Calls <p>Lot 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of works in pilot basins • Launching the process of dissemination of collective experience acquired through studies and pilot basin activities, consisting in: organising the 1st training sessions for Chinese basin commissions and local administrations in charge of water management, developing a methodological guidebook dedicated to river basin management, improvement of water quality and restoration practices. <p>Lot 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of impacts from groundwater abstraction on GDE in karst springs and streams from catchment scale modelling • Modelling of water saving irrigation technologies at farm and irrigation system scale • Assessment of the potential of using different water sources (reclaimed wastewater, lake and river water, rain- and storm water) for MAR to restore overexploited aquifers • to evaluate the logistical implications, both in terms of establishing the necessary infrastructure for water transport and for ensuring geologically suitable space for MAR of the different ways of providing more water (reclaimed wastewater, rain and storm water) to restore the depleted aquifers in the rural areas.

	<p>Lot 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synthesis and critical issue report - articulating and assessing the opportunities of integrated water and energy planning • Concept paper - Comparison of green Hydropower standards • Concept paper for green Hydropower in the Panxi river • Analysis of the benefits of the hydropower cascade (flood protection, irrigation, tourism, etc) via questionnaire and literature research • Analysis of requests, suggestions, complaints from the operators and consumers point of view via questionnaire • Investigation of energy potential (hydrological, technical, operation, energy market, etc) of hydropower cascade via questionnaire and literature research • Cost and Benefit Analysis on Pumped Hydro Storage in China. 	<p>Lot4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint development and design of case studie for understanding the implications and lesson learnt for integrated water and energy planning from both EU and China • Analysis of Panxi cascade regarding hidden potentials • Study on renewable energy production scenario in China • Study on Best Available Technologies for Pumped Hydro Storage in China • Cost and Benefit Analysis for Pumped Hydro Storage /small hydro power for the demonstration action.
<p>3 Business Cooperation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inception Phase Inventories and Mobilisation of Business Sector • Development of Plan for Access Program Events 2018-2021 • Inventory of the Chinese Water Tech Market • Pilot Events held at IFAT EXPO in Shanghai and CWEC International Water Conference in Qingdao • Desk study on water related circular economy policies in China, EU and selected Member States of the EU. • Introductory Workshop reg Economic Instruments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two Access Program Events held in China and 1 in Europe • Workshops on Circular Economy and Economic Instruments and development of White Papers for each of the "Water Systems"
<p>Platform Coordination and Development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Steering committee meeting 27th June, Qingdao, China • Joint secretariats meetings • European Coordination Meeting • Partnership Instrument project Consortia Leaders Meetings • Communication; including website, newsletter, twitter, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Steering committee meeting in Europe • Joint secretariats meetings • European Coordination Meeting • Partnership Instrument project Consortia Leaders Meetings • Communication; including website, newsletter, twitter, etc.

4. Organisation, Communication and Funding

The CEWP organisation and terms of reference and CEWP entry rules for new parties are described in separate documents (Annexes 1 and 2).

CEWP is a partnership among equal partners. Hence, activities undertaken under CEWP will be financed by both Chinese and European sides respectively, unless otherwise agreed upon. The two secretariats will further develop and implement CEWP working procedures.

CEWP Communication Plan 2018 - 2019

The most visible communications channel for the CEWP organization is the website (cewp.eu). The site is administered by the secretariat in Finland. All events organized under the umbrella on CEWP are made available to publish by the secretariat.

The website will be overhauled during the first half of 2018. Structure of the website will be updated and simplified. The three pillars (policy, research, business) will have added visibility. Twitter feed (@ChinaEUwater) will be integrated into the website.

There will be an intranet section behind a password for sharing files. The intranet includes also a listing of social media accounts of CEWP partners. This will enable following of partner organizations and cross-sharing of content, both increasing overall CEWP visibility. Newsletters will be published twice a year in English. There will be a possibility to order the newsletter on the website cewp.eu.

Official CEWP Twitter handle is @ChinaEUwater and hashtag #CEWP. Other important hashtags include #water, #environment and #cleantech. Account will tweet news regarding European and Chinese water sector + other notable news and events. Target audience is the same as for CEWP in general, but also taking into account interests of media and other active accounts, which might retweet CEWP's tweets.

More emphasis will be placed on social media. Each event organizer under the CEWP should consider how to use different services to their advantage. Social media plays an important role in both internal communications and marketing purposes during major events.

CEWP Work Programme has been approved by the Joint Steering Committee in Qingdao, China, on June 27th 2018.

