

27.6.2018

CEWP Secretariats' and Focus Areas' Report of the activities between May 2017 and June 2018

Secretariat

- Joint Steering Committee Meeting was organized in Lisbon, Portugal, 3-4, May 2017. The main agenda items were: the new Partnership Instrument funding and themes included in the proposals, and the periodicity of European Secretariat, JSC and High-Level Meetings.
- The Annual High-Level Meeting was organized in Turku, Finland, 20-22 September 2017. The main discussion items in the high-level policy dialogue were Sustainable Development Goals (Agenda 2030) and circular Economy. Altogether 10 High-level delegations from EU Member States, from P.R. China, European Commission, World Bank, OECD and European Investment Bank attended. The high-level Meeting was followed by a business event and Research & Innovation Session. Altogether there were ca 350 participants, more than 100 European and 50 Chinese companies in Turku.
- During the year 2017 preparations for a proposal for so-called horizontal activity to be funded from the EU Partnership Instrument were completed. The Contract between EU Delegation in Beijing and Ministry of Environment in Denmark was signed at the end of 2017, and the project started in the beginning of 2018. Many of the activities in the Horizontal Activity will support the European Secretariat of the CEWP.
- The European Secretariat was moved from Denmark to Finland 1.1.2018 for two years period. In Finland the responsible organisations are Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Regional Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment of Southwest Finland.
- The first half of 2018 has been the inception phase of the Horizontal Activity.
- CEWP was represented by the EU and Chinese Secretariats in 8th World Water Forum, Brasilia 19th March 2018, and presented as good example for EU regional water cooperation in an event co-organised by EU Commission and Portugal
- Preparations for the 10th Joint Steering Committee meeting has been done, the meeting will be held in Qingdao, China on 27 June 2018. Preparations include Terms of Reference for the JSC, Secretariat and Focus Areas, procedure for EU Member States to participate the activities of the CEWP, connections to international organisations (EIB and WssTP) and also outlines for the next Annual High-Level Meeting to be held in China

Business and Innovation activities

- Information Sessions have held with the aim of informing about CEWP PI Business and Innovation Dialogue: a) meeting with EU Embassies Environment Counselors; speech at WSSTP Water Market Europe Event; speech at PIANO Final Workshop
- Information about the B&I Program distributed via a range of channels: CEWP website; European water tech organizations (WSSTP, EIP Water, PIANO); Environment Counselors Network via EUD; European National Water Tech Organizations; PI Consortia Leaders
- Pilot Events held at IE EXPO Shanghai, May 2018, and CWEC Conference, Qingdao



27.6.2018

- Consultancy Contracts signed with EU SME Centre (Act 2.1) and INWater (Act 2.2)
- Tenders currently ongoing or in preparation reg Act 2.2, Act 2.3 and Act 3.3
- Methodologies reg Access Program; Open Innovation & Matchmaking; Improvement of Framework Conditions; Circular Economy; Economic Instruments in process
- A tentative plan outlining time, venue and prioritized market segments / Lots will be distributed to Lots 1-4 during first half of June

Focus Area: Basin Management and Ecological Security

- The main activity has been the development of the detailed project proposal for PI- Lot 1 which covers all general aspects of the Focus area Water management and Ecological Security. This activity has involved the 3 main partners from France (IOWater-IOEAU), Finland (SYKE) and Portugal (University of Évora and Portuguese Ministry of Environment), but also many contacts with other Member States interested in understanding the overall objectives of the project and how they could participate to future activities. The Project has started on 1st January 2018 for a period of 48 months; the six-months inception phase will end with a participation to the Kick-off meeting organised on June 26 in Qindao, China.
- Other activities have included:
 - Back to back with CEWP Steering Committee meeting, May 2017, organisation of a visit to the Water Treatment Station of Alcântara in coordination with Waters of Portugal , and a study visit to Alqueva region
 - Participation to the Qingdao CEWP Access Conference event, June 2017, organised in cooperation with the Beijing Desalination Branch Office of the China Water Enterprise Confederation (CWEC).
 - Participation to the CEWP Annual High Level conference in Turku, Finland in September 2017
 - Participation to the International Conference of Ecological Civilization and Green Liveable Town Development - Suzhou 2017, October 2017
 - Organization of Study visit to Nanxi and Suzhou with Portuguese (University of Évora) and French (IRSTEA) team, October 2017
 - Organization of Study visit to Suzhou and Chongming (Shanghai) with Portuguese (University of Évora) and Austrian (BOKU) team, November 2017
 - Organization of Study visit to Mondego fishpass and Alcântara Water Treatment Station to Delegation of the Chinese Vice-ministry of Water Resources following Turku High Level meeting and invitation, November 2017.
 - Organisation of a study visit on “Emission Permitting and Water management” for a Delegation from ACEE, France, November 27-29th.
 - Organisation of a High Level Seminar on “River Basin Integrated Water Resources Management” Seminar, Beijing-Tianjin 6-7 December with the support of EU PSF Instrument
 - Participation to a workshop on “Environmental management and control of waste-water discharges” organised by ACEE , Appraisal Center for Environment & Engineering of the Ministry of Environmental Protection, Beijing December 13-14 2017, with the support of GIZ and German Cooperation
 - Organisation of Expert workshop on River Restoration supported by EU PSF Instrument and study visit, 6th and 7th of February 2018 with the objective of developing a joint declaration on Restoration Standards in China and EU.



27.6.2018

- Development of a Joint Policy Study on Freshwater Restoration Standards finalized in April 2018 and still under improvement and consultation through On-line questionnaire on Restoration projects developed in Europe and China (still running).
- Presentation of sub-program “Restoration, ecosystem Services and Biodiversity”, particularly Nanxi Watershed case study on 8th World Water Forum, Brasilia 19th March 2018
- Fostering the involvement of Austria in the sub-programme on “Restoration, Ecosystem Services and Biodiversity”, with the facilitation of the development of a bilateral project between BOKU and Tongji University on Chongming area (Shanghai) and Taihu Lake.
- Study visit of Austrian partners to China for development of a new Joint project following visit made in November 2017, Suzhou and Chongming, 6th - 09th of April 2018.

Focus Area: Rural Water and Food Security

- **Visit to Jinan.** October 2017. Visit to present and discuss the draft EU PI.
- **China Europe Water Platform Annual High-Level Dialogue Conference.** 20 - 22 October 2017, participation the 2017 CEWP Annual conference in Turku, Finland.
- **EU PI Preparatory visit to China,** 17-30 October 2017. Meetings with Shandong Water Research Institute reviewing draft EU PI application and identifying Chinese partners. Expert lecture on the EU Water Framework Directive and Groundwater Directive at the University of Jinan attended by 60 MSc and Ph D students. Initial meetings with Beijing Sen Miao Environmental Technology Company on Ecological and Mechanical Village-level Wastewater Treatment systems.
- **WssTP Water Knowledge Europe and Working Groups meetings in Brussels,** 29-30 November 2017. Participation in the Water Knowledge Europe and the Working Group Water beyond Europe. Match making with EU Companies having Water Technology Innovations of relevance to PI RURAL WP6 Groundwater-based Rural Water Supply and Village-level Wastewater Treatment. Resulting in 12 contacts for follow up.
- **Preparatory visit to China,** 15 - 24 January. Confirmation of agreements with Chinese partners and preparation of the contents and logistics of the Kick off meeting to be held in March 2018 and the Qingdao International Water Conference to be held in June 2018. The visit included meetings with MWR IETCEC and MWR WRMC, Water Research Institute of Shandong Province, China Institute of Geo-environmental Monitoring, Chinese Academy of Sciences Institutes of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, China Desalination Association of the China Water Enterprise Association. Field visits were made to potential case-study areas at Pinggu with the Beijing Sen Miao Environmental Technology Company (Ecological Village-level Wastewater Treatment Systems) and to Baoding City (River restoration) with Archiland Denmark.
- **Kick off meeting Beijing,** 5 - 8 March 2018. The official start of the project was marked by a Kick off meeting for all the involved consortium partners, including the Chinese counterparts. Some 60 experts participated in the meeting, which was held in Beijing. The meeting was divided up in 7 sessions, including an opening session, attended by Ministry of Water Resources, International and Technical Cooperation Exchange Centre (IETCEC), who is the leading Chinese counterpart on the policy dialogue, The EU Delegation to China, the Danish and Finnish embassies and the European and Chinese CEWP secretariats. The 6 other sessions presented the activities of the different technical work packages of the project.



27.6.2018

In addition, 3 invited speakers from Belgium, UK and China gave their views on selected topics of relevance to the project. The 3rd day of the Kick off Meeting comprised a study tour to a groundwater monitoring station at Tongzhou and the ecological village-level wastewater treatment systems and the pig farm in the Pinggu District of Beijing Municipality.

- **Groundwater management workshop in Jinan, 9 March 2018.** A meeting was held in the Shandong Water Resources Department to introduce tools and technologies for groundwater management. The PI RURAL consortium gave 3 presentations on selected topics to an audience of app. 150 staff.
- **WssTP Water Market Europe and Working Groups meetings in Brussels, 20-22 March 2018.** Participation in the Water Market Europe and the Working Group Water beyond Europe. Presentation of PI RURAL WP6 Groundwater-based Rural Water Supply and Village-level Wastewater Treatment and invitation to EU companies having related Water Technology Innovations to join the WP followed by matchmaking resulting in 30 contacts for follow up.
- **Proposal on Manure management technologies to mitigate water pollution in rural areas, 15 May (on the Chinese side to MoST) and 12 June 2018 (on the Danish side to the Innovation Fund Denmark).** A joint proposal on manure management was submitted to the 2 funding agencies on a specific Chinese Danish call.
- **Qingdao International Water Congress, January - June 2018.** Preparation and delivery of the PI Rural dialogue on relation of PI Rural to the Water SDGs for China and the EU.

Focus Area: Water & Urbanization

- The EU expert team from Netherlands, Denmark, Finland and Sweden had its first joined mission to China from 24-30 March 2018. This visit was the first of two mission during the inception phase of the project with the main objective of further liaising with the Chinese partners towards agreement on the Chinese pilot cities and the specific cooperation items.
- The mission resulted in nominating Beijing and Changde (Hunan Province) as Chinese pilot Cities. Beijing Water Authorities, part of the Ministry of Water Resources, will be the main beneficiary for the demonstration in Beijing. The emphases will be with the hydrological chain and how the SCC approach can address the Beijing's water demand, recharging groundwater, water quality improvement and meanwhile addressing livability.
- For Changde, The Chinese Academy of Urban Planning and Design (CAUPD) under the Ministry of Housing will be the main beneficiary. The emphasis in Changde will be on sustainability, socioeconomics, financing and adaptive pathway planning for Sponge City implementation. In working with these two main beneficiaries, under two Chinese ministries which deal with Sponge City implementation the project aims at engaging in the policy dialogue under the general CEWP-PI framework.



27.6.2018

Focus Area: Water and Energy Security

- The main activity has been the development of project proposal for project Lot 4 - "Sustainable Hydropower Use and Integration in China and EU (SHUI-ChE) and the implementation of its inception phase. As the preparation for the Lot 4 project, SwAM together with SEI conducted a study to map out opportunities and challenges for collaboration with China in the field of water and energy. The study also analyzed ongoing activities and strategically important actors in China that should be engaged within the scope of the The two organizations also had a joint fact-finding trip to China in October 2017 for introducing the Lot 4 project to potential Chinese partners to be engaged in the future.
- In September 2017, SwAM received a delegation from the Nanjing Hydraulic Research Institute (NHRI) in Sweden to discuss how the two organizations could collaborate under the Water and Energy Security focus area. Recently, the NHRI has committed to be the leading partner on the Chinese side for the Lot 4 SHUI-ChE project and SwAM has also nominated them to be the Chinese lead for the Water and Energy Security Focus Area.
- One of our partners in the Lot 4 project, BOKU, has also been hosting a guest researcher from the Hangzhou Regional Centre (Asia-pacific) for Small Hydropower (HRC) since 2017 who has been focusing on green standards for small hydropower and also support BOKU's implementation within the Lot 4 project.
- The Lot 4 SHUI-ChE project had its official kick-off among the European partners in the beginning of February 2018. The involved partner have since been focusing on detailed planning of upcoming activities after the six-months inception phase and also to establish both formal and informal partnership with key partners in China. The development of partnership in China has, for some Lot 4 partners, been challenging owing to the lack of financing on the Chinese side. The Lot 4 project is now more focused on Chinese partners that already have funded activities in the field of water and energy and try to carry out joint activities based on mutual benefits and mutual funding. The kick-off for the implementation phase for the Lot 4 project will take place on 26 June in Qingdao.

