



Joint workshop on sustainable and green urbanization

Organised by JPI Urban Europe and the China Academy for Social Sciences and supported by the City of Zhongshan

The China Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) and the Joint Programming Initiative Urban Europe (JPI UE) have agreed to organize a joint workshop on sustainable and green urbanization with the aim to facilitate exchange between Chinese and European experts on sustainable urbanization. Particular emphasis will be given to questions such as how to design and develop urban areas to achieve a higher sustainability and resilience and how to accelerate such urban transition processes.

Background

JPI Urban Europe is a transnational research and innovation programme set-up by European Member States with the ambition to tackle the urbanisation challenge, establish as the European hub for urban transition and sustainability and coordinate and align related activities and actors of the participating Member States. In this sense international cooperation is one of the priorities to contribute to urban transition on a global stage. China is seen as one of the key countries for cooperation due to its high urbanisation dynamics and the relevance sustainable urban development has gained.

JPI Urban Europe aims to establish and support longer-term cooperations on sustainable urbanisation to achieve the following objectives:

- Enhance cities' and urban areas' capacities for sustainable urbanisation and the required urban transition processes
- Create knowledge and evidence for urban transitions pathways under different regional and local conditions (e.g. cultural, climate, economic)

Date
21–22 November 2017



Location
Zhongshan
Guangdong Province
China



Contact

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The exchange among Chinese and European researchers and experts on sustainable and green urbanization is set in the light of the UN-Habitat New Urban Agenda and the agreement on international efforts to improve sustainability and liveability in urban areas around the globe. At the same time, national and multi-lateral research and innovation agendas have been developed to address key issues for urban transitions. Connecting those strategies and sharing experiences on new urban practices and concepts seems essential to benefit globally from R&I activities and achievements.

Workshop objectives

As a response to this opportunity, the workshop objectives are to:

- Presentation and exchange on innovative concepts, methods, tools and policies to support sustainable urbanisation
- Share experiences from European and Chinese cases and demonstration projects
- Use concrete cases (e.g. from Zhongshan) to explore approaches and solutions
- Develop recommendations for decision makers on how to tackle complex urban challenges
- Identify possible collaboration topics and create project ideas

Workshop topics

The topics are selected according to the priorities of CASS as well as the strategic focus of JPI UE. In addition, the selected topics connect to a planned joint call between JPI UE and NSFC on sustainable urbanization, which is scheduled for beginning of 2018. The workshop presents an opportunity to initiate contacts between European and Chinese experts to build Sino-European consortia in anticipation of this call.

The following topics provide reference for the exchange:

- Structural adjustment and new urban economies
- Climate change and green development
- Smart city and big data

Expected outcome of the workshop

- European and Chinese researchers and urban actors are informed about different approaches towards sustainable urbanization developed and applied in Europe and China
- European and Chinese researchers and urban actors establish contacts for project development and cooperation, e.g. in the frame of forthcoming Sino-European joint calls for proposals
- CASS and JPI UE receive input for possible follow-up workshops and actions

Participants

The workshop brings together researchers from universities and research institutes, applied research organizations and city administration representatives. According to the interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral nature of the workshop topics, experts from different disciplines and sectors, such as urban sustainability, urban transitions, socio-economics, urban management, smart city developments or urban data analytics are invited to apply. Furthermore, the participation of municipal or city administration representatives is encouraged in order to share reflections on policy implications and implementation aspects.

Application process

Interested experts are invited to submit their CV and their expression of interest until 30 September, 2017 by using the application form.

The application form for the expression of interest can be filled-in and submitted here: <http://jpi-urbaneurope.eu/joint-workshop-on-sustainable-and-green-urbanization/>

Applicants will be informed about approval October 6, 2017 at the latest and formal invitations for visa applications follows approval.

Selection criteria

- Thematic fit of personal expertise with workshop topics
 - Innovativeness of research approach
 - Experience in collaboration with China (not mandatory)
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