China

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UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme

Progress Report

Period of activity: September 2005 – February 2006

UNESCO Chair in Sustainable Water Management

Host institution: Hohai University (with the University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany)

Report established by: Prof. Wolfgang F. Geiger (University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany)

I. Activities

1. Education/Training/Research.

Established in 2005, the key objective of the UNESCO Chair on "Sustainable Water Management" is to build an understanding of water management, considering local and regional conditions of water resources as well as socio-economic conditions, whereby water resources must be maintained or rehabilitated to provide a sound basis for future generations.

As its first activity, the Chair conducted a training course at the Ocean University of China in Qingdao and Tongji University in Shanghai.

2. Conferences/Meetings

A meeting was held at the UNEP institute of Tongji University, Shanghai, to discuss a tentative schedule for a 1st Training Course on “Sustainability in Water Management”. (June 23 to 26, 2006). In addition, a graduate course on "Stormwater Management in Human Settlements" was envisaged.

At the Ocean University of China, Qingdao, it was agreed to have a course on “Sustainable Water Management (in coastal areas)” in late 2006 or 2007 and to introduce sustainability issues into their MSc programme in environmental engineering.

3.Partnerships

One PhD student from Tongji University for 7 month at University of Duisburg-Essen,
One MSc student from University of Duisburg-Essen for 3 month at Tongji University.

II. Impact

The discussions and course preparations specified concrete topics that can help a better understanding of integrative aspects in water management and quantifying sustainability.

III. Forthcoming activities:

The following activities are currently being planned:

- "Stormwater Management in Human Settlements"
  The course may require 8 seminar style lectures of 2 hours each and 3 to 5 workshop style full days, not including homework. In total the workload for an average student may be 150 hours
  Target groups: MS Students
  Geographical coverage for partners and participants: Shanghai to begin with

- Training course on "Sustainability in Water Management" at Tongji University, Shanghai.
  The training course scheduled for 2006 aims at creating an understanding of the importance of sustainability for water management. Sustainability criteria shall not only be discussed in general, but applied to real examples. The necessary legal and scientific background must be given.
  Duration: One week
  Target groups: Planners, governmental decision makers, lecturers and graduate students
  Geographical coverage for partners and participants: Jiangsu Province

In addition:

- Lectures on "Sustainability and Integrated Water Management" for local governments in Hangzhou and Shanghai.

- Follow up of further activities prepared by the Chair, Co-chair and other institutions in Guizhou , Jilin or Yunnan Province.

III. Development prospects

Short and medium term: Lectures and training courses
Long term: MSc course modules.