

EU-China cooperation on sustainable urban and regional development

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Urbanisation: a joint challenge

Risks:

 ✓ Urban population expected to double from 2.6 billion (2010) to 5.2 billion in 2050
 ✓ Environmental and social problems, congestion, safety, etc.

Opportunities:

✓Cities = engines of growth and innovation, social and cultural development

Policy

✓ *Our future = future of our cities*

"Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable" (SDG 11)



Two-fold EU urban approach

1) EU Urban Agenda with three components

- ✓ Regulatory
- ✓ Funding
- ✓ Sharing of knowledge and action

Pact of Amsterdam (NL-Presidency)





Two-fold EU urban approach

2) International outreach

 ✓ Urban dimension in 12 agreements on regional policy cooperation between European Commission (DG REGIO) and third countries

✓ World Cities (China, Canada, India, Japan)

✓ URBELAC (Latin America)



EU-China Regional and Urban Policy Dialogue



Policy



EU-China Regional Policy Cooperation

✓ *Started* 2006

✓ Annual High Level Dialogues and Seminars

- ✓ Expert exchanges
 ✓ 250+ experts from Chinese regions
 ✓ 130+ experts from EU regions
- Many cooperation agreements and MoUs signed: public authorities / research institutions / business





CETREGIO / World Cities impressions







Perspectives for future cooperation (1)

1. Deepened dialogue / cooperation

Areas inter alia:

- ✓ Regional integration,
- ✓ regional innovation,
- ✓ support to start-ups an SMEs,
- ✓industrial transformation and upgrading,
- ✓linking urban and rural development,

✓ capacity building



Perspectives for future cooperation (2)

2. Cities-to-cities and B2B cooperation

✓Explore and realize cooperation in:

- ✓ Innovative sustainable urban development
- ✓ Joint innovative business projects

3. EU Support through the Partnership Instrument 2016-2018





Invitation:

European Week of Regions and Cities 2016 Brussels, 10-13 October 2016