

2nd Forum on Governance

The governance of NGOs
and their role in co-producing public services

Beijing
9-11 November 2007

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In 2005, the China Youth Development Foundation and the Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation organised a first international meeting in Beijing around governance issues, gathering political leaders, academics and civil society leaders. This second Forum has restricted its topics to one specific actor of this new governance paradigm: Non Governmental Organisations, or more generally, what can be defined as “the third sector”.

Two different but complementary issues will be addressed during the meeting: the governance of NGOs and the role of NGOs in social governance. The forming of governance structure of NGOs will be highlighted in NGO’s internal governance. The role and significance of NGO in the third distribution of social wealth and the participation of NGO in creating and managing public goods will be highlighted in social governance.

Articulating the specificity of the internal functioning of NGOs and the added-value that their can have for other actors will thus be a central axis of the reflection. Both of those aspects are important to reflect about the challenge of co-producing public goods and services, according to the new paradigm of governance, which includes the idea of a multi-stake holder joint effort to contribute to a harmonious society.

The conference will mainly focus on the role of NGOs in the delivery of services to the populations, at the local, national and international level. Two sectors will be specifically addressed: rural education, and health . On each of these sectors, the meeting will gather different profiles of actors:

- Chinese NGOs active in service delivery at the local and national level
- National French NGOs active in service delivery in the same field, at the local and national level
- International NGOs working on the same field of activities, both in China and outside China
- Officials from the Chinese, and the French administration and from international organisations, in charge of the liaison with civil society activities
- Academics working on these topics

The aim of the conference is thus to set up a space for debate between an emerging Chinese civil society, some actors of French third sector and representatives of an increasingly globalised civil society. How can these actors share their experience concerning the specific

modes of organisations of an NGO, and its specific modes of interactions with other actors (public, private) etc?

The conference will gather around 30 to 40 participants for three days. It will be mainly held in the China Youth Development Foundation building and in the Peking University (TBC)

The Organisers

- **China Youth Development Foundation**

The China Youth Development Foundation is a non-profit social organisation with a legal status, independent of the government, founded by the All China Youth Federation in March 1989. CYDF is committed to helping youth enhance their learning and life skills and improving the environment for the development of youth by providing aid services, expressing their interests and social advocacy. CYDF is notably the owner of the Project Hope brand, launched in 1989, which goal is to provide each and every child of Chinese farmers the opportunity to go to school.

- **Institute for research and debate on governance (IRG)**

The IRG is a forum for international and intercultural debate on governance. A crossroads between various schools of thought and different cultural approaches, the Institute promotes exchange between researchers, academics, journalists, civil servants, international organisations, civil society and so on. To this end, it provides an online database, publications, international meetings and support for student work, as well as sharing between universities.

One of the program of the IRG concerns “The role of civil society in national and global governance” and is directly related to the topic of the conference.

- **Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation for Human Progress (FPH)**

The Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation for Human Progress (formerly Fondation pour le Progrès de l’Homme, hence the acronym FPH) is an independent foundation under Swiss law. Its current priorities, defined in its 2004–2010 guidelines and its 2006–2007 strategy, are:

- to support the emergence of a world community, made indispensable by globalisation;
- to contribute to three major changes that humankind must make in the course of the 21st century:
 - > a revolution in governance in order to manage the new interdependence between human beings, between societies, and between humanity and the biosphere;
 - > the search for a universal ethic of responsibility;
 - > the creation of a sustainable society.

Program

Thursday, November 8

Registration, evening prearrangement meeting

Friday, November 9: morning

Opening ceremony and plenary session

Venue: Oriental Cultural Hotel Beijing. Add: 101, Jiadaokou Dongdajie, East City District

Participants: 200-300 (Meeting delegates, NGO practitioners, college students of social work majors, and media)

9:30-10:30 Opening ceremony

Addresses by representatives of All China Youth Federation, Ministry of Civil Affairs, IRG / FPH, EU or the French Embassy, and a grassroots NGO (**Ms. Liao Xiaoyi**, Global Village of Beijing)

10:30-10:40 Break

10:40-12:00 Plenary session

Topic: **Role and responsibilities of NGOs in China and outside China**

4 key-note speeches (20 minutes for each speaker, plus 10 minutes each for questions and answers) by

- **Mr. Li Qiang**, Professor of Sociology Department, Tsinghua University
(or **Mr. Wang Ming**, Director of NGO Research Center, Tsinghua University)

- **Mrs. Jude HOWELL**, Director of the Centre for Civil Society of the London School of Economic :
- “*New trends in civil society in China. Comparative approach of Chinese and Western NGOs*”
- **Mr. Xu Yongguang**, Chair of Board, Nandu Charity Foundation
- **Mr. Jean-Louis Vielajus** Executive director of the French Comity of International Solidarity
- “*The role and responsibilities of international development NGOs*”

12:00-13:30 Lunch

Friday November 9: afternoon

On-site session

Topic: **NGO’s internal governance**

Venue: CYDF office

14:00-14:30 **Mme. Gu Xiaojin**, executive vice chair of CYDF board:

- “*The Governance Structure of CYDF Board*”

14:30-15:00 **Mr. Henri Rouillé d’Orfeuil** - – President of Coordination Sud – French Federation of development and emergency NGOs

- “*Articulating national and international platforms of NGOs*”

15:00-15:30 Questions and debate

15:30-16:00 Break, visit, exchange

16:00-16:30 **Ms. Wang Xingjuan**, chair of Red Maple Women Hotline:

- “*Decision making mechanism of NGO*”

16:30-17:00 Feedbacks from international experiences

17:00-17:30 Questions and answers, discussion

17:30 Return to hotel for dinner

Enjoy cultural activities in the evening

Saturday November 10, morning

On-site session

Venue: BN Vocational School for Migrant Children, East City District, Beijing

Participants: 30-50

9:30-10:30 Ms. Yao Li, chair of Board of BN Vocational School, shows the participants around the classrooms and makes an introduction to the school and its programs.

10:30-11:30 Exchanges with students, teachers, and volunteers of BN Vocational School

11:30-12:00 Mr. Yang Bo-ning, Director of Motorola China Communication & Public Affairs: Education and Social Development

12:00-13:00 Lunch

Saturday November 10, afternoon

The role and action of NGO in education of rural youth and the challenge of co-producing educational public good: relations between civil society organizations and the public actors.

Venue: Peking University (TBC)

Participants: 30-50

About the topic:

China's rural areas have undergone great changes as far as the economical and political systems of governance of the education sector are concerned. The current contract responsibility system replaces the original people's commune system, various civil organisations have begun to emerge and the villagers' self-governing system based on civil organisations has been gradually implemented. What influence do these civil organisations have on local governance?

In France, even though the education sector has been traditionally very centralised and very much controlled by the State, the experiences of some civil society actors in this field have to be noticed. The "Rural Family Houses" is one of them. Covering parts of the French territory where public vocational education is absent, the RFH associate professionals, civil society leaders, citizens, in the management of each school. In doing so, it proposes new models and new conceptions of education, fostering notably alternation between school and professional experience.

How do NGOs define their role in these evolving national contexts and how do they address the issues and needs in education of rural youth inside and outside China. What role could they play in supplement to the government's major role in education? What approaches and actions could NGOs take to advocate for social concern and help solve the problems? How does the practice of international NGOs in that field can be relevant in China? What

autonomy does civil society have in the field of education? What is the French experience in this field?

Two categories of young people are concerned by those questions:

- children, especially, for China, girls dropping out of school due to poverty, or migrant children, deprived of schooling; in Europe, this questions mainly concerns children belonging to immigrated or marginalized categories.
- rural teenagers, especially as far as vocational education is concerned.

The description and analysis of one specific Chinese project, “Project Hope”, will help understand more deeply the relation between a civil organisation and other actors like the related departments of the Central government, local governments, the Communist Youth League organisations, and enterprise legal persons.

13:30-15:30 *Round Table 1 in plenary session*

The topic will be presented by a moderator, who will spend 10 to 15 minutes to introduce the subject for the two round tables and present the participants.

Speeches (15 minutes for each speaker)

- **Representative of China Children and Teenagers’ Fund, Spring Bud Project**
- **Jean-Claude Daigney**, directeur de l’Union nationale des Maisons familiales rurales d’éducation et d’orientation (France) : *the experience of alternating training by associative entities in France.*
- **Representative of Sowers Action** (Hong Kong)
- **Representative of Byrraju Foundation** (India)
- **Mr. Bruno Tardieu**, *ATD-quart monde : the challenge of educating children from marginalized categories.*

Debate (35 to 40 minutes : questions to the speakers and discussion)

15:30-16:00 Break, exchange

16:00 – 17:30 *Round Table 2 in plenary session*

Speeches (three speeches of 15 to 20 minutes and debate)

- **Representative of China Youth Development Foundation**, Project Hope Teacher Training Program

- **Mrs. Jude Howell**, Director of the Centre for Civil Society of the London School of Economic : “ *New trends in civil society in China. Analysis of the Project Hope*”
- **Mrs. Claire Calosci**, “Aide et Action” : “*The specificity of the educational field for NGO’s collaboration with public authorities. Comparative approach from diverse international experiences*”

Debate (40 minutes for questions to the speakers and discussion)

17:30 Return to hotel

Sunday November 11, morning

Topic: NGOs role and action in the field of health care and the challenge of co-producing Health public good

Venue: TBC

Participants: 30-50

Preliminary remarks: In this session, each speaker delivers a 15 minutes intervention and answer questions from the audience for 5 minutes

About the topic

China created a three-level rural health care system in 1958. The collective economy at that time offered financial support to all the clinics stationed in villages, communes (townships) and counties while the farmers did not need to pay for medical services. But the once prevailing rural medical care system gradually faded in the 1980s, when the rural economic reform took place. Without the financial backup from the collective economy, poor villages could not afford the cost of running clinics, and farmers could not enjoy the welfare of free medical services any longer. More and more rural governments at different levels began to explore various ways, including reforms of investment, personnel management and income distribution systems, to build up a more reasonable medical service system. Moreover, in China, water sources, such as rivers, lakes, and underground aquifers, have been increasingly threatened by industrial pollution, a situation which directly hampers health situation. This aspect of water issues will then be dealt within this section.

In France, Government and NGO are facing two problems in Health care : on one hand, the increasing proportion of aged and handicapped people in the population makes it extremely difficult for the public services to meet all the needs and provide a service relevant to the local, scattered realities; on the second hand, immigration flows bring a large number of people without Health affiliation and Health right. In both cases, a certain number of NGOs are active, since decades, for complementing public health services and acting, at a decentralized level, in the field of prevention and medical health.

The interventions and debates will provide a comparative review of the effective and potential role of NGOs inside and outside China as an innovative actor in addressing the issues and needs in rural medical care and sanitation. How could NGOs mobilize social resources to collaborate with government, rural communities and households to provide charitable medical service.

9:00-11:00 ***Round table 3 in plenary session :***

Topic: **The role of NGOs in co- producing health services.**

The topic will be presented by a moderator, who will spend 5 to 10 minutes to introduce the subject and present the participants.

Round-table (15 minutes for each speaker)

- **Dr. Wang Hongman**, Ph. D of Medicine, Post Ph.D of Sociology, Associate Researcher of Peking University: *“The Status Quo of China Rural Cooperative Medical Treatment”*
- **Mme Danièle Dumas**, President of the **l’Union nationale des associations d’aide à domicile en milieu rural (France)** – or a representative of the UNASSAD (in urban areas) : *“the role and achievement of third sector and French NGOs in the preventive and curative care of aged or handicapped persons.”*
- **Mme. Yang Tuan**, Sociology Institute of Chinese Academy of Social Science and an international representative: - *“Rural Community Medical Care”*
- **Michel Bruguiere**. Médecins du monde France : *“Role and achievement of a French NGO in prevention and medical care in France, especially with regards to Aids, Drugs and exclusion issues”.*
- **A dean or doctor of a Hope Hospital**: Hope Hospital Project in impoverished rural areas

Debate (40 minutes : questions to the speakers and discussion)

11:00-11:15 : break

11:15-12:30 : *Round table 4 in plenary session:*

Topic: **the role of NGOs in co- producing water and sanitation services.**

The topic will be presented by a moderator, who will spend 5 to 10 minutes to introduce the subject and present the participants.

Speeches (15 minutes for each speaker)

- **Dr. Wang Yi**, deputy director of Policy Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Science: *“NGO and Water Governance in China”*
- **Mme Amélie Canonne** and **Mme Fanny Petit**, AITEC-Association internationale de techniciens (France) : *“water delivery public services, third sector and users in European countries.” Reformuler l’intervention*
- **Chinese official working on water management**

Debate (30 minutes : questions to the speakers and discussion)

12:45-13:45 Lunch

Sunday November 11, afternoon

14:00-16:30 : Workshops

- *workshop on rural education 1 (special emphasis on children)*
- *workshop on rural education 2 (special emphasis on youth vocational training)*
- *workshop on health 1*
- *workshop on health 2 (with special emphasis on water and sanitation issues)*

16:30-17:00 : break

17:00-18:00 : Synthesis of the debates and working guidelines for the future (Presentation of a summary of the 3 days discussions by the organisers (**Chen Yuegang, Chen Lichuan, Martin Vielajus**, 30 minutes), and debate.

18:00-18:30 : Conclusive speeches

- **Mr. Tu Meng**, CYDF
- **Mr. Shang Yusheng**, China NPO Network
- **Mr. Michel Sauquet**, IRG
- **Mr. Chen Yueguang**, Science & Technology of China Magazine

19:00 Celebration dinner

Monday November 12

Departure

Remarks

The program involves the interventions of

- 21 Chinese participants, and
- 13 international participants.