

Symposium

(by invitation only)

Urbanisation Processes and Participation in German-Chinese Partnerships

Organised by the City of Cologne and the Stiftung Asienhaus

September 27th, 2016

1.30 p.m. – 7.00 p.m. (8.30 p.m.)

VHS-Forum, Rautenstrauch-Joest Museum, Cäcilienstreet 29-33, 50667 Cologne

On 3rd of May 2012, the European Union and China have agreed on the arrangement of a so-called "partnership on urbanisation". On 26th of May 2013, the German Chancellor Angela Merkel and the Chinese Prime Minister Li Keqiang agreed on their bilateral urbanisation partnership. On 10th of November 2015, the implementation of the Sino-German partnership on urbanisation was concretely decided upon on the basis of the common memorandum of the German Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) and the Chinese Ministry of Construction and Urban-Rural Development (MoHURD). This new political platform is particularly focussed on topics like sustainability, environmental and climate protection, energy, and green as well as "grey" infrastructure. Since June 2016, the implementation of the Sino-German partnership on urbanisation is organised by the German Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and managed through the Beijing office as well as a liaison office in Bonn. Until now, the partnership is anchored exclusively intergovernmental; nevertheless it should also flesh out on the local and regional level.

China's urbanisation plans are highly ambitious: In the future, nearly half of the population will live in five giant urban clusters. During the next 10 years, 250 million people are to be "urbanised". While 52% of the Chinese population currently live in cities, 70% are expected to do so in 2025. This puts pressure on local governments to build adequate housing and relocate the rural population, as well as to find innovative solutions for transportation and industry with respect to climate change mitigation. As Ben Barber argues, mayors of the future must become masters of "good governance".

In Germany, too, urbanisation processes impact everyday life directly. They are at the center of local politics and require active citizen participation if they are to be successful and sustainable.

In this context, the symposium will give those active in politics and municipal partnerships well-founded insights into global urbanisation processes, especially the highly dynamic developments in China. At the same time, it will use specific examples to explore how various forms of participation in German and Chinese cities are shaped and how they can be encouraged.

Therefore, the question of opportunities for citizen participation in its different forms, both in Germany and China, will be at the centre of the symposium. The goal will be to highlight the civic dimension in the development of an urbanisation partnership with China, to raise awareness of opportunities and challenges, and to create impulses for the practical implementation of Sino-German cooperation. As an example for a solid framework of action we focus on the twin city partnership between Cologne and Beijing, established in 1987.

The event is part of the project "China matters" (www.eu-china.net).

Supported by



Supported by



With its



With financial support from the



**Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development**

Languages:

German and Chinese (simultaneous interpretation)

Goal:

Recommendations for shaping German-Chinese city and urbanization partnerships through participation.

Target Groups:

Representatives of the Cologne City Council and Administration, of the Beijing Municipal Government, of other German municipalities, of municipal associations and the federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia, as well as of German development cooperation organizations (GIZ, Engagement Global and others); civil society actors active in German-Chinese municipal partnerships, especially Cologne-Beijing.

The **Chatham House Rule** will apply to this event:

The participants may freely use the information obtained under the condition, that they reveal neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speakers or other participants.

In case of urgency:

Please contact Joanna Klabisch, Tel. Nr.: +49 0175/3447150

Coordination and Contact:**a) Stiftung Asienhaus** (Project lead)

Hohenzollernring 52, 50672 Köln

Dr. phil. habil. Nora Sausmikat

Director China Programme

Tel.: 0221 – 71 61 21-12

Fax: 0221 – 71 61 21-10

E-Mail: urbanisierung@asienhaus.de

b) City of Cologne

International Affairs, Head of Department

Frieder Wolf

Tel.: 0221 - 221-26031

mobile: 0173 – 88 69 232

Fax: 0221 - 221-21849

E-Mail: frieder.wolf@stadt-koeln.de

Gabriele Voss

Tel.: 0221 - 221-26035

Fax: 0221 - 221-21849

E-Mail: gabriele.voss1@stadt-koeln.de

Programme Tue, 27th of September 2016, 1.30 – 7.00 p.m.

Moderator: Ludwig Weitz (ViS!ON)

1.30 p.m. – 1.50 p.m.	Welcome addresses by the organisers, the mayor Dr. Heinen and donors
Part I: Urbanisation Processes and Participation from a Global Perspective German-Chinese Urbanisation Partnership	
1.50 p.m. – 2.10 p.m.	SANDRA MÜLLER (Liaison Office Sino-German Urbanisation Partnership/GIZ) German-Chinese Urbanisation Partnership
2.10 p.m. – 2.30 p.m.	PROF. DR. HANS-LIUDGER DENIEL (Technical University of Berlin) A Global Perspective on Urbanization Processes and Participation
2.30 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.	Questions and Discussion
3.00 p.m. – 3.15 p.m.	Short Break
Part II: Urbanisation and Participation in German and Chinese Cities / Impulses, dialogues and discussion	
3.15 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	DR. SASKIA HIEBER (Academy for Political Education) Reflections on the Role of Public Participation in Chinese Reform Processes
3.30 p.m. – 5.45 p.m.	Participation in Chinese and German Cities (short statements, each 10 Minutes) • YAN YING (Beijing Municipal Government, Deputy Director-General of the National Reform and Development Commission) • ANNA LUISE MÜLLER (City of Cologne, City Planning Office) • SONG QINGHUA (NGO Shining Stone) • ANNA DITGES (Director of the film [Who Owns the City – Citizens in Action]) • YANG DENG (CSCP WUPPERTAL, NGO TWINNER OF P 8/CHANGSHA) • ALMUT SKRIVER (Köln mitgestalten e.V) Plenum discussion
5.45 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.	Short Break
Part III: Panel Discussion and Final Remarks	
6.00 p.m. – 6.55 p.m.	Participation in the German-Chinese urbanization partnership and the Cologne-Beijing twin city partnership: Recommendations and perspectives • YAN YING (Beijing Municipal Government, Deputy Director-General of the Reform and Development Commission) • ANNE LUISE MÜLLER (Director of City Planning Office, City of Cologne) • SANDRA MÜLLER (Liason Office of the German-Chinese Urbanization Partnership) • MATTHIAS LAMBERTZ (Association of the Friends of China e.V., Society for Cologne-Beijing Partnership)
6.55 p.m.	Closing remarks by the organisers
7.00 p.m. – 08.30 p.m.	Get-together (finger-food and drinks)