



Asienstiftung

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**Selection committee decided for the first five twinners for 2013**

**Topics of exchange**

Supported by the  
**Robert Bosch Stiftung**

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**Press release**

**First five EU-China NPO twinners selected**

**In order to strengthen alliances between civil society organizations in Europe and China the German Asia Foundation supported by the Robert Bosch Foundation launches a first-of-its-kind EU-China NGO exchange program. In the context of the program one European and one Chinese NGO will be paired up as "twinning-partners". They will develop a joint project for cooperation and each send one fellow to work in the respective other organization for 4 to 8 weeks. A total of ten organizations can participate in 2013.**

The EU-China NGO Twinning program received more than 30 applications for the first round of the NGO exchange between Europe and China. We are very pleased to see that the applications cover a wide range of topics: from climate change, organic agriculture, labor rights to green credit policies.

The overall feedback to the program which we listened to during our phone consultations with the applicants is extremely enthusiastic: "This program comes right in time. Personal contacts are the most important element to understand the other culture and build up cooperation".

The selection committee decided for the following five twinners:

- ◆ Green Watershed, Yunnan Province/BothENDS, Netherlands
- ◆ Yunnan Environmental Development Institute, Yunnan Province/ Grüne Liga, Germany
- ◆ Public Interest and Development Law Institute, Hubei Province/The Rights Practice, United Kingdom
- ◆ CHEE Productions, Guangdong Province/Berlin Massive, Germany
- ◆ Hunan Aimier, Hunan Province/Chickenshed, United Kingdom

Green Watershed and BothENDS will both focus on the Green Credit Policies. In 2007 the Chinese government declared a Green Credit Policy to regulate the lending activities of Chinese banks. However, many Chinese banks have not implemented the policy yet. The twinning aims at increasing the understanding of the different policies' effectiveness and the implications for the development project monitoring of CSOs. Furthermore, it offers an opportunity to reflect on the safeguards and green credit policies and how they might be improved.

The Yunnan Environmental Development Insitute and the Grüne Liga both focus on water policies. The exchange aims at fostering a better understanding and application of holistic and sustainable solutions in the context of a harmonious co-existence between man and nature. During the exchange, this aim shall be pursued by cooperating on safe water utilization and protection, as well as on the application of holistic technologies and methods.

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**The Public Interest and Development Law Institute (PIDLI) and The Rights Practice** wish to explore the NPO management in the area of criminal justice. They wish to understand operations and practical functioning of the others' NPO as well as concrete operations of the criminal justice system in the others' area. They also aim to use the exchange as a valuable networking opportunity to enable the participants to train in legal and cultural matters. The PIDLI has developed out of the public interest law movement, the "law and development" movement, and the "developmental law" campaign in Southeast Asian countries. The institute is affiliated with Wuhan University School of Law.

**CHEE Productions and Berlin Massive** would like to exchange on urban youth cultures. During their stay, the exchange partners aim at getting to know the structures and opportunities of working in the field of cultural youth education, culture and intercultural work in their respective area. Both partners focus on social and cultural initiatives with a grassroots character and try to use this opportunity for the establishment of long-term partnerships.

**Hunan Aimier Hunan and Chickenshed** focus on inclusive theatre. The participants aim at improving their cooperation in providing inclusive theatre workshops in China.

## Stiftung Asienhaus

The Stiftung Asienhaus was founded in 1992 to promote the dialogue with Asian countries and to support the initiatives and organisations participating in it. It is politically and economically independent, working here and in Asia for human dignity and against oppression, for overcoming prejudices and the realization of social justice. In 2013, German Asia Foundation changed into Stiftung Asienhaus.

## Contact and Information

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