

## China's Leading Urban Decision-Makers Work Together for Sustainable Community Development



**Groundbreaking Dialogue** - Wang Zhongping, NTCMC Director, addresses mayors on the vital importance of public participation in sustainable community development.

**BEIJING - Harmony Foundation and the National Training Center for Mayors of China** trained 40 Chinese mayors and vice-mayors for sustainable community development Saturday, Oct. 20.

This enormously successful event launched a new collaboration between Harmony and the National Training Center for Mayors of China (NTCMC).

Harmony and National Training Center for Mayors of China are currently developing plans for future training sessions and are working with the **Environmental Management College of China** to further develop *The Leadership Training Program for Sustainable Community Development in China*.

"I congratulate the Harmony Foundation of Canada for the tremendous success of *Leadership for Sustainable Community Development in China*," said Wang Zhongping, Director of NTCMC. "We are pleased to be a partner in developing this innovative and important training program for China's mayors, vice-mayors, and city leaders."

During the training, held at the NTCMC facility, Harmony Foundation and the Environmental Management College of China released the Chinese versions of Harmony's publications *Green Cities: a Guide to Sustainable Community Development* and *Community Action Workshop Manual*.

### Successful Community Training Gains Practical Results

**QINHUANGDAO** - Over 45 people attended *The Leadership Training Program for Sustainable Community Development's* community workshop held Thursday, Oct. 25 at the **Dong**

**Yanwu** community center in Qinhuangdao, Hebei Province - from all accounts, the workshop was a huge success.

"I am very pleased," Wu Ju said after the workshops, which he led with Peng Yudan, a fellow lecturer at the Environmental Management College of China (EMCC), "There was great attendance, and enthusiastic participation from the community residents!" Wu said.

"It is a great accomplishment," said Xue Yanyan, Environmental Management College of China's Project Coordinator. "To see the training be so effective, and to see such participation and resolve on the part of community residents is exciting."

Rather than blaming the lack of action on local officials and the community management company, Dong Yanwu residents are volunteering to make the environment in which they live a healthier place.

The workshop marked a strong start for Year 2 for *The Leadership Training Program for Sustainable Community Development*.

"The project team's hard work is producing great results," Bloomfield agreed. "This is ground-breaking work in China, and to realize such success is inspiring."

The workshop comes after a highly productive first year with many accomplishments, including the translation, adaptation, and publication of the Chinese language versions of *Green Cities: a Guide to Sustainable Community Development* and *Community Action Workshop Manual*. The publications were released as part of the training.

### Leaders Envision Environmental Management College of China as Future "Centre" for Leadership Training

**QINHUANGDAO** - "We want EMCC to be the centre for leadership training for sustainable community development in China," said Zhang Yongli, President of Environmental Management College of China.

"The college is an ideal place for such a vision to become reality, as EMCC is well positioned to nurture the program's expansion in the future," said Geng Shigang, EMCC Vice-President and Project Director for *The Leadership Training Program for Sustainable Community Development* for EMCC.

"We offer our continuing and deepened commitment, to our partnership with Harmony Foundation to develop the Leadership Training for Sustainable Community Development in China." Zhang said.

Since EMCC trains local Environmental Protection Bureau

directors, State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA) administrators, and other environmental protection leaders, the program has access to an existing network of potential trainers, as its graduates are well-placed in communities throughout China.

“By working together to build skills and cooperation for sustainable community development,” said Michael Bloomfield, “we will attract the support to establish a successful program that will provide lasting benefits for China and the world for generations to come.”

### Program Partners Agree on Exciting New Plans

**CHINA** - Training more trainers, community groups and mayors is central to the important activities planned for Year 2 of *The Leadership Training Program for Sustainable Community Development in China*.

“Training community trainers and conducting education programs for mayors Environmental Protection Bureau managers and other senior officials will expand the benefits of our program,” said Zhang Yongli, President, EMCC.

Wang Zhongping, Director, National Training Center for Mayors, agreed. “This program is vital to integrating the principles of sustainable community development on a significant scale by training mayors, vice-mayors, city building professionals, and other city leaders to make a difference.”

Such strong support results from the Achievements of Harmony and its partners in Year 1. This support was bolstered by the 17th National Congress, where leaders of China’s central government called for socially and environmentally sustainable development, which was applauded by leaders around the world.

During Year 2, project partners also will conduct a demonstration training session for attendees at World Urban Forum 4, in Nanjing. People from around the world will attend this United Nations event, October 17-23, 2008.

“Our participation at World Urban Forum 4 in Nanjing, will raise the visibility of this important work we are doing together,” Zhang stated.

Partners also will continue researching and writing a compilation of Chinese success stories in sustainable community development, expand distribution of program manuals, and continue consultations with key governmental and non-governmental agencies, colleges and universities, and recognized leaders in sustainable community development in China and North America.

As part of the overall effort to expand program collaboration, Harmony is actively facilitating cooperation between EMCC and NTCMC. In addition, Harmony is working with EMCC and the British Columbia Institute of Technology’s School of Construction and the Environment to develop collaboration on faculty and student exchanges.

## Socially and environmentally sustainable development in China—a global responsibility

**BEIJING** - The National Training Center for Mayors of China (NTCMC) is a new partner for *The Leadership Training Program for Sustainable Community Development in China*.

“Right now, there are approximately 60,000 communities in China,” NTCMC Director Wang Zhongping said in a meeting with Harmony Foundation following its successful event at the Center in Beijing. “We need this program to serve all of these communities! How can we make this happen?”

Director Wang is thinking big, inspired by his recent collaboration with Harmony Foundation and the benefits of Chinese communities achieving development that is environmentally and socially sustainable.

Wong wants to join with Harmony and EMCC to network China’s training facilities, regional, provincial and national party schools and other key institutions to expand the reach of *The Leadership Training Program for Sustainable Community Development in China*.

These partners are determined to find the support for this vital program in China, in Canada and around the world.

They know that the failure to achieve socially and environmentally sustainable development in China poses serious threats to public health, economic security and the global environment.

“Our progress in China has been exhilarating,” Bloomfield said upon his return to Canada. “But there remains much work to do.”

“We are hopeful each corporation, government agency, education institution and individual we approach has the necessary foresight to understand the critical nature of this work in China,” Bloomfield stated. “

As China’s future goes, so goes the rest of the world,” he added. “Our generation has a huge responsibility,”

### Sponsors of *Leadership for Sustainable Community Development in China*

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Previous reports about Harmony Foundation’s work in China are available on our website.