

Program enables communities to meet challenges

Building Leadership Training for Sustainable Community Development in China

The **Sustainable Community Development Leadership Training Program for China** was launched in June, 2006 in Vancouver, Canada at World Urban Forum III.

The program is a collaboration between Harmony Foundation of Canada (Harmony) and Environmental Management College of China (EMCC), with assistance from Oriental Environmental Institute (OEI) and Earth Council Alliance (ECA).

The partners committed to work together to create and implement a leadership training program for community leaders, city building professionals and mayors in China: an innovative and effective training program which builds the capacity to achieve community development in China which is socially and environmentally sustainable.

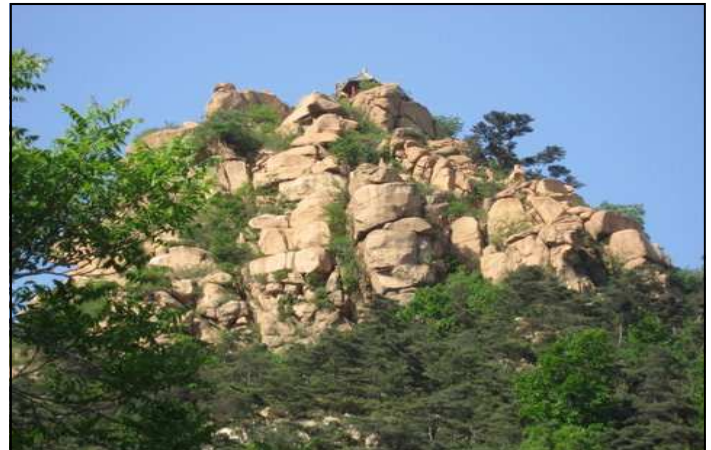


Qinhuangdao city leaders participate in training

The program provides community residents, mayors, city leaders, and city building professionals skills to take an active role in local problem-solving and decision-making.

Since June 2006, significant results have been achieved and partners have:

- established a seven-person Project Team at the Environmental Management College



Chongli County, Hebei Province

- completed translation, adaptation, and external reviews of Harmony Foundation's ***Community Action Workshop Manual*** and ***Green Cities: a Guide for Sustainable Community Development***
- begun adaptation of Harmony community leadership training and work with pilot communities in Hebei Province
- initiated work for publication on a compilation of Chinese success stories in sustainable community development
- consulted with various government agencies, colleges and universities and leaders in sustainable community development in China
- secured funding and arranged travel for 11 Chinese program delegates to attend Gaining Ground Sustainable Development Leadership Summit Victoria, Canada -June 4-6, 2007 and to attend post-conference meetings to discuss collaboration
- secured an agreement with Earth Council Foundation – US to produce OEI/ECA Conference and Forum in October in China; events will focus on sustainable community development
- secured agreement with Gaining Ground Summit for collaboration on October and subsequent events in China



- worked with British Columbia Institute of Technology and Environmental Management College of China regarding potential program collaboration and faculty/student exchanges
- begun discussions with leaders of World Urban Forum IV in Nanjing, China June 2008 to develop a demonstration workshop and training for mayors and city building professionals at the event; and

conducted, with OEI and ECA, a conference on sustainable community development in Beijing October 2006 for leading Chinese NGO's and academic institutions

National Training Centre for Mayors engaged **China trip May 2007 productive**

During a very successful trip to China in May, 2007, program partners:

- completed demonstration training sessions with selected community groups in Qinhuangdao as part of preparation for pilot programs
- held a successful forum and demonstration training session with Qinhuangdao city leaders and Environmental Protection Bureau (EPB) leaders
- worked closely with the EMCC Project Team to further adapt Harmony's leadership training to develop the "train the trainers" program
- agreed to cooperate with the National Training Centre for Mayors on the development and production of a forum for city leaders and a demonstration training session for mayors, in conjunction with the annual OEI/ECA conference in October, 2007
- met with Tsinghua University Student "Green Association" whose work with environmental literacy with migrant workers Harmony is supporting
- consulted with and obtained program endorsements from Centre of Sustainable Development- China Social Science Academy; Bureau of Planning and Finance- Chinese Academy of Sciences; Department of Environmental Sciences & Technology- Tsinghua University; Department of Regional Economy-



Bullet train "Harmony"



Project Team training with community

National Development and Reform Commission; and the Department of the Environment- National Development and Reform Commission, to expand the program's network and further inform Chinese leaders about program activities

- met with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) at the Embassy of Canada in Beijing

Completing Year One with a flourish

By October 2007 partners will:

- publish the Chinese version of **Green Cities: a Guide for Sustainable Community Development**, and the **Community Action Workshop Manual**
- launch our pilot communities program, Qinhuangdao, Hebei Province
- begin training trainers, and finalize adaptation of training
- develop and deliver, with the National Training Centre for Mayors and Gaining Ground, a forum for city leaders and a training session for mayors,
- establish EMCC as the principal training venue with a coalition of committed leaders from key agencies and organizations to form a program secretariat
- raise funds for Years 2 and 3 of program
- finalize plans for production of compilation of Chinese sustainable community development success stories
- expand consultations and cooperation with key leaders and organizations from the NGO, government, academic, and business sectors in China

Roles of the Partners

Harmony Foundation and **EMCC** lead the development and implementation of the Leadership Training Program for Sustainable Community Development in China. **OEI** provides liaison with key government agencies and sustainability organizations. **ECA** brought these partners together, and will continue to seek new alliances and resources to achieve the goals of this results-oriented program.

Our colleagues in China, Chinese and international, tell us this training is urgently needed to build civil society participation and the leadership skills to achieve socially and environmentally sustainable development.



Project Team with community group

Discussions are underway with provincial and local agencies and education institutions to deliver training across China.

Meeting the enormous challenge of achieving socially and environmentally sustainable development in China requires building informed leadership and public participation.

By increasing local capacity for informed decision-making and cooperative action, more and more communities are able to respond to the challenges posed by issues such as climate

change, water, bio-diversity, food security, and local economic development.

The Leadership Training Program for Sustainable Community Development in China empowers leaders and those they serve to take an active role in helping their communities meet these challenges.

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For further information please see Leadership Training Program for Sustainable Community Development in China and the International Leadership Training for Sustainable Community Development Program Executive Summary