

# **Social Protection Reform Project**

## **PAC observations from the First Project Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting**

Beijing

21<sup>st</sup> April 2015

- The project PAC meeting is an essential element of the project in line with the grant agreement.
- The proposed project activity plan reflects the fruitful cooperation among the Consortium and the three Chinese Beneficiaries (NDRC, MoF and MoCA), which in general responds to the political demands of the Chinese Beneficiaries. The Aide Memoire is therefore approved in principle by the PAC subject to the remarks below.
- The size of the consortium and the number of Chinese beneficiaries reflects the great interest in the project and show the wide resources base to draw on, it will also present specific challenges for the efficient project management. The PAC sees it as essential that efficient mechanism to recruit high qualified experts in a timely manner responding to Chinese needs.
- Three EU resident experts in China are the key persons to ensure a successful project implementation. PAC sees it as important that they be given sufficient autonomy and flexibility in dealing with project implementation issues.
- For each targeted topic, the nature of activities and required type of inputs should be defined as early as possible. In this regard, the PAC stressed the relevance of involving experts representing experience from other European countries beyond the Consortium Member States and well as from universities.
- The PAC agrees with six monthly progress reports and detailed annual report submitted by the Consortium. In order to keep all parties be

informed about the project progress and activities, a quarterly dashboard indicating intermediary outputs and milestones per topic or as appropriate be provided to all parties.

- PAC suggested to having a communication/coordination platform in China among core stakeholders by setting up periodic joint meeting during the period of project implementation.

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