



EU-CHINA

Social Protection Reform Project
中国-欧盟社会保障改革项目



FROM THE RESIDENT EXPERT, COMPONENT 1

For Component One of the EU-China Social Protection Reform Project SPRP, this second quarter of 2018 was mostly devoted to the preparation of forthcoming activities, and to the consolidation of past achievements in terms of coherence and synergies among the various components of our project.

The overall programme of activities for the current year had been agreed by the Project Advisory Committee – PAC – meeting in Beijing on 6 February 2018. Component One main central topics, which will be the focus for joint Chinese and European research, deepened through dialogue and study visits as well as high-level training conducted in Europe, include employment promotion – vocational training and population mobil-

ity, tools for redistribution of primary income, gender considerations in employment and social protection, as well as the prospects for universal pensions in China, using resident pensions (urban and rural) as a starting point. As accustomed over past years, the Project C1 team is conducting an active dialogue with Chinese and European researchers to ensure the full relevance of their works for matching the preoccupations and interests of the Chinese authorities. It was therefore felt potentially interesting for the readership of this Newsletter to be provided with some insight on this continuing dialogue between the project team and its authors. At the time of issuing this copy, two preparatory meetings could be held with each of the Chinese authors, and fruitful exchanges be conducted with European specialists, thus paving the way for fruitful developments to occur during the fall of 2018.

Meanwhile, the Project Component One team handled the new task assigned to it by the Project authorities, that of leading and facilitating the works of the Task force on Project Coherence and Synergies, the creation of which was approved on 20 April by the EU Delegation in Beijing. The first report of the Task Force, issued on 16 May 2018, shows that the component-based activities of the Project since its inception in

C1 Newsletter

Summer 2018

late 2014 were indeed adequately articulated by resident experts – and that they formed a solid basis for the production of very useful materials beyond the scope of individual components.

Our Component also continued over this quarter to maintain contacts with partners outside the framework of the project paper, and to disseminate its findings, suggestions and proposals to an ever growing number of followers, thanks to an active publications policy, remarkably supported by NDRC which ensured the translation into Chinese language of all technical materials produced under Component One programmes of activities. This public availability of a great variety of original documentation on social security reform and employment promotion in both Chinese and English versions will be part of the legacy of a project that testifies to the openness and pragmatism of Chinese stakeholders in pursuing the active modernization of what is already the most important and, qualitatively speaking, one of the richest social protection systems around the world.

Jean-Victor Gruat
June 2018

MEETING WITH NEW ILO REPRESENTATIVE IN BEIJING

On 20 April 2018, Mr. Zhang Guoqing, Main Expert (Operations) and Mr. Jean-Victor Gruat, Resident Expert, Component 1 of the EU-China Social Protection Reform Project, met with Ms. Claire Courteille-Mulder, newly appointed Director of the Beijing Office of the International Labour Organization. The meeting allowed for an exchange of information of the two parties' fields of interest in social protection and employment in China. It led to the confirmation of the mutual intention to continue a solidly established cooperation that started from the very first year of the project in 2015 and included national activities as well as involvement in China MoHRSS initiatives with the ILO concerning development of South-South Cooperation. It was confirmed that the EU Delegation in Beijing as well as the Project Component 1 would be welcomed to take part in the works of the UN theme group on Poverty of which ILO is the vice-chair. The Theme group has in turn established sub-working groups some of which might also be of specific interest to the Project and the EUD.



Task force members meeting on 26 April 2018.
From left to right (seated) Mr JV Gruat, Mr Michele Bruni, Mr Zhang Guoqing (standing) Ms Ma Lan, Ms Valentina Pignotti, Ms Marzena Breza, Ms Iwona Rogacka-Hu, Ms Shi Chuan, Mr Giovanni Lin.

SYNERGIES AND COHERENCE

Formally created on 20 April 2018, the Task Force on Project Technical Coherence and Synergies includes members from each of the three Project Components as well as from the Project office. Its most substantial completed works and reports are available from the project website, <http://www.euchinasprp.eu/>, under the section devoted to horizontal activities. As part of its Action Programme, the Task Force monitors the overall project contribution to solving problem areas in Chinese social protection and addressing cross-cutting issues. It looks after the internal coherence of project recommendations on connected issues, and produces its own analytical work. This will include participation in a project special event on Ageing organised around the time for the International Day of the Elderly (second half of September or early October 2018) and the compilation of Project Memorabilia and Bibliography. Component One was honoured to be selected as Convener and Secretariat of the Task Force.

GET IN TOUCH

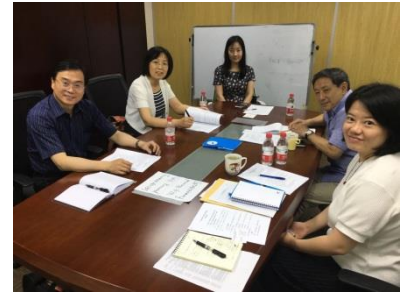
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2018 RESEARCH WORKS

This year will be a rich one as far as researches on policy matters conducted under the framework of EU-China SPRP Component One are concerned. The Project team already met or had fruitful contacts with all of the identified authors for these research works – which golden thread will be the role of social protection in upholding societal changes.

• EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SECURITY UNDER THE BACKGROUND OF POPULATION MOBILITY

Labour mobility is a key to ensure continued stable economic development in China. As a matter of fact the reality of population movement is year after year a more visible component of the Chinese society. However, the analysis of the phenomenon as well as its regulatory framework and accompanying labour and social policy measures are in a way lagging behind. Mr Jin Weigang, President of the Chinese Academy of Labour and Social Sciences (on the picture, visiting the SPRP Office for the second time on 15 May 2018) has accepted to prepare an assessment report with policy recommendations on this phenomenon. Background national papers requested from European experts from a variety of countries will help entertain the China-Europe exchange and dialogue in this respect.



• QUALITY-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE LABOUR FORCE



In order to facilitate the transition from mass unskilled labour to skilled employment, which is required to accompany the development of the new normal economy where massive export of raw materials and modest quality cheap goods will no more be the vehicle for national development, it is important to identify the ways and means through which social protection embodies modern, lifelong vocational training technique, in which European experience will prove to be most useful. Chinese and European researches will be conducted in parallel for this important topic, for which Mr Yang Weiguo, Dean of the School of Labor and Human Resources in Renmin University of China has kindly accepted to conduct an assessment with policy recommendations. Prof. Yang visited the SPRP Beijing Office on 9 May 2018, and the project team visited Renmin University on 27 June (see left picture).

• POLICY AND REGULATIONS FOR INCOME DISTRIBUTION

Primary income redistribution is crucial to the development of a harmonious society, especially when inequalities in primary income distribution are high, as is the case in China. Mr Li Shi, from the China Institute for Income Distribution- on the picture, visiting the SPRP Beijing Office on 9 May 2018, has kindly agreed to undertake the analysis of the different tools available for income redistribution, which are direct and indirect taxation, social security contributions be they or not assessed on salaries, access to public services and public subsidies, social security and social assistance benefits, determination of wage levels and levels of remuneration for capital investment, etc. From the European side, Mr Jean-Yves Hocquet will produce a comparative study on European practices, where the situation in France, Italy, Sweden and the United Kingdom will be addressed in more details.



These above-listed research works will be submitted to and discussed on a panel discussion meeting held during the summer of 2018, and an international workshop to be convened in Belgium in September of the same year.

• CONSIDERING UNIVERSAL PENSIONS IN CHINA



In 2016, the coverage under urban and rural residents or employees' pension schemes was of some 900 million persons, which was considered as close to 90% of the eligible population. However, this quasi-universal coverage is not achieved through a unified, coherent system, and raises a number of questions about equity, social efficiency, sustainability and mobility. The question of achieving a fair and decent protection in old age for the whole China population is a core preoccupation for the Government at all levels, all the more when this population is experiencing a rapid demographic ageing. Mr. Qi Chuanjun (see left picture, visiting the SPRP Beijing Office on 8 May 2018), from the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, CASS, has agreed to conduct a study and analysis of the prospects to make use of resident pensions in China to consider the possibility of developing at the national level a truly integrated, satisfactory and sustainable universal pension scheme.

• ACTIVE AGEING

In its programme of activities for 2016, 2017 and indeed 2018, the project Component One has devoted research and assessment works to reviewing the implications of demographic ageing affecting the Chinese society, including in the realms of employment and social protection. While pursuing the development of a New Normal economy in the country, it was considered important to take into account the experiences conducted in Europe in terms of promoting what is called "active ageing" for residents of demographically vulnerable countries, and to envisage the extent to which these experien-

ces and related underlying concepts and methodological tools would be of use for The JC Institute of Ageing, Chinese University of Hong Kong, was selected to conduct this study, for which Prof. Asghar Zaidi, Lead Researcher, Active Ageing Index Project of the European Commission's DG for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), will be the main resource person. It is expected that his works will be presented during the Annual meeting of the China Social security association in September 2018, as well as on the occasion of the Project special event for the International day of the Elderly. Prof. Zaidi had visited the Project Office in Beijing in December 2017.



A TRULY BILINGUAL PROJECT

Since early 2015, the documents available in both English and Chinese versions produced by the Project Component One represent some 1.000 pages in each language. Those technical reports and presentations made by eminent Chinese and European specialists as well as by the Project team members are available to all from the dedicated website <http://www.euchinasprp.eu/>. It is thanks to the National Development and Reform Commission that all required translation work could be performed, to constitute what has become a unique source of information for researchers on social protection from China and from the rest of the World.



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项目第一部分 常驻专家寄语

中欧社会保障改革项目第一部分在 2018 年第二季度的主要工作包括：为接下来的项目活动进行前期筹备，以及围绕项目各部分间的协作与整合这一主题，对过去几年的工作成果进行梳理。

2018 年 2 月 6 日在北京召开了项目指导委员会，会上通过了 2018 年度项目活动计划。2018 年第一部分的计划覆盖 5 个主要议题——通过职业培训促进就业、流动人口的就业及社保问题、收入再分配、就业及社保相关领域中的性别问题、以及居民普遍养老金（以城乡居民养老金为基础）的前景探讨；围绕这些议

题，第一部分将开展中欧联合研究活动、组织研讨会、并组织中方人员赴欧考察及参加高级别培训活动。

按照项目惯例，第一部分项目组正在与中欧双方参与课题研究的专家进行积极的对话，确保其研究成果与中国政府的相关领域内的关注点的相关性。因此，我们在本期通讯中也会介绍项目组与专家之间的沟通进展。至本期通讯发布时，项目组已与各中方专家分别进行过 2 次交流活动，与欧方专家的沟通交流也在持续进行中，这些充分的交流和沟通确保了 2018 年秋季活动的顺利开展。

与此同时，第一部分也承接了项目管理层分配的新任务——承担项目协作与整合特别工作组的协调与组织工作，该工作组由欧盟驻华代表团于 2018 年 4 月 20 日批准成立。2018 年 5 月 16 日，工作组的第一份报告发布，报告表明，自 2014 年底项目伊始，

在欧方常驻专家的领导下，项目各部分所开展的活动都有明确的目标和定位——这些活动为工作组整合梳理整个项目的活动成果提供了充分的材料。

在第二季度，除了与项目框架内的合作伙伴保持合作，第一部分项目组持续与更多的潜在合作机构进行接洽。得益于与国家发展与改革委员会（NDRC）的密切合作，第一部分的所有活动成果能够以双语合集的形式呈现出来，并推广给更多的受众。

这些文献资料以中英双语的形式对外公开，囊括了项目组在社会保障改革和促进就业方面进行的大量研究成果，这些文件充分表明，作为世界上最重要也是最复杂的社会保障体系的管理者，中国政府在积极推进现代化社会保障改革方面始终保持的开放务实的态度。

圭亚
2018 年 6 月

与国际劳工组织新任驻华代表会面

2018 年 4 月 20 日，中欧社会保障改革项目第一部分中方执行专家张国庆先生、第一部分欧方常驻专家让-维克多·圭亚先生一行，前往国际劳工组织北京办公室，与新上任的局长柯凯琳女士举行会晤，双方针对各自在中国的社会保障及就业方面开展的工作进行了交流。国际劳工组织一直是项目的合作伙伴之一，双方都表达了进一步加强合作的意愿。自中欧社会保障改革项目 2015 年实施以来，在多个全国性的活动以及中国人力资源和社会保障部关于发展南南合作的项目中，双方都有密切的合作。柯凯琳女士表示，国际劳工组织作为联合国贫困主题小组副主席，热烈欢迎欧盟驻华代表团以及中欧社会保障改革项目第一部分参与相关的主题活动。圭亚先生表示，主题小组下设的部分分组与项目和欧盟驻华代表团的工作有着很强的关联性。



项目协作与整合特别工作组成员合影（2018 年 4 月 26 日小组会议）。前排左起：让-维克多·圭亚先生、米凯勒·布鲁尼先生、张国庆先生；后排左起：马岚女士、毕若华女士、马哲娜·布雷扎女士、伊沃娜·罗嘎茨卡-胡女士、史川女士、林国旺先生。

项目各部分间的协作与整合

项目协作与整合特别工作组于 2018 年 4 月 20 日正式成立，工作组成员包括来自项目各部分的工作人员及项目办公室的工作人员。工作组的主要工作进展和工作报告已上传至网址 <http://www.euchinasprp.eu/>，点击“横向活动”栏目即可查阅。根据《项目协作与整合特别工作组行动计划》，工作组负责确保项目能够从整体上帮助解决中国在社会保障方面的问题；尤其是针对各部分活动中存在的交叉议题，工作组负责整合各部分提出的相关政策建议，理顺内部逻辑，并给出综合的分析报告。在此基础上，工作组的计划还包括：参加 2018 年 9 月下旬或 10 月上旬举行的国际老年日特别活动、设计项目纪念光盘、整理项目参考文献数据库等。项目第一部分很荣幸担任特别工作组的召集方和秘书处。

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2018 年度课题研究活动

2018 年将是中欧社会保障改革项目第一部分政策研究的丰收年。项目组已经与所有参与研究活动的专家及团队进行了会晤及详谈，研究活动将围绕推进社会保障改革，促进社会进步的主线分主题开展。

● 人口流动背景下的就业及社保

就业人口的流动是保证中国经济持续稳定发展的关键。事实上，近些年来，人口流动在中国已经成为一个不可忽视的社会现象。尽管如此，与之相关的研究成果以及相应的法规框架和政策却相对较少。在这一背景下，中欧社会保障改革项目第一部分邀请中国劳动和社会保障科学研究院院长金维刚先生（右图左一，金院长及其研究团队于 2018 年 5 月 15 日第二次造访项目办公室）以流动人口的就业和社保问题为主题撰写研究报告并提出相应的政策建议。与此同时，来自多个国家的欧洲专家也将针对同一课题给出相应的国别背景报告，这些报告将极大地丰富中欧双方在这一领域的对话和交流。



● 高质量发展与劳动者素质提升



随着中国经济新常态的到来，经济发展已经跨越了依赖原材料和低端商品出口的阶段，产业结构升级背景下的劳动者素质水平正在成为制约经济发展的重要因素。为了更好地提升劳动者素质，促进经济高质量发展，有必要明确社会保障在建设现代化的终身职业培训制度这一过程中的作用和意义。围绕这一课题，项目第一部分将邀请中欧双方的专家将开展平行研究。中方专家、中国人民大学劳动人事学院教授/博士生导师杨伟国先生 2018 年 5 月 9 日造访项目办公室；受杨教授邀请，项目组于 2018 年 6 月 27 日赴人民大学（左图），双方就研究活动的计划与进展进行了深入的交流。

● 收入分配法规及政策

初次收入再分配对于建设和谐公平的社会具有重要意义，尤其是在中国，初次收入分配过程中还存在着较多不平等现象。受项目组的邀请，中国收入分配研究院执行院长李实先生（右图左二）于 2018 年 5 月 9 日造访办公室，他将承担关于收入再分配过程中相关政策工具的研究，其中包括：直接税、间接税、基于工资或其他收入的社会保障金缴纳参数、公共服务及补贴、社会保障金、社会救助金、工资分级、资本投资收益分级等。欧洲方面，项目组邀请让-伊夫·霍克先生对 4 个欧洲国家的收入再分配状况进行对比研究，包括法国、意大利、瑞典以及英国。



以上 3 项研究的初步成果将在 2018 年第一部分的课题研讨会上公布，最终成果将在本年度 9 月份于比利时举行的国际研讨会上发布。

● 中国普遍养老金前景探究



截至 2016 年，城乡居民养老保险及城镇企业职工养老保险参保人数达 9 亿人，参保率接近 90%。尽管参保率高，中国的养老金制度却远未达到统一协调，并由此带来了一系列问题，涉及公平与效率的平衡、养老金的可持续性及其可迁移性等。为中国的老年人提供公平、充裕的养老金保障是各级政府工作的重中之重，尤其是在当前社会加速老龄化的背景下。应项目第一部分邀请，中国社会科学院的齐传军先生（左图左二）于 2018 年 5 月 8 日造访项目办公室，齐传军先生将以现行城乡居民养老保险为基础，探讨建立全国统一的养老金制度的可能性。

● 积极老龄化

自 2016 年以来，项目第一部分每年的研究活动都涉及老龄化对中国社会的影响，包括在就业和社会保障领域。在经济新常态的背景下，借鉴欧洲利用相关的概念及方法论工具，在老龄化严重的国家和地区推进“积极老龄化”的经验，对于中国变得越来越重要。

在这一背景下，项目组与香港中文大学老龄研究所展开合作，邀请研究所的阿斯卡·扎伊迪教授出任研究核心成员。扎伊迪教授曾担任欧盟委员会就业、社会事务和融合总司及联合国欧洲经济委员会关于积极老龄化指数研究的首席研究员。按计划他将于 2018 年 9 月参加在大连举行的中国社会保险协会年会并在会上发言，另外他也会参与项目组举办的国际老年日特别活动。扎伊迪教授 2017 年 12 月造访过项目组北京办公室。



Hello 您好 中英双语的项目研究成果

自 2015 年初开始，第一部分的各项研究成果均以中英双语的形式发布于项目网站 <http://www.euchinasprp.eu/>，这些成果中既有中欧知名专家学者的研究课题，也有项目组成员的技术报告，两个语种的文献总量累计均已超过 1000 页。衷心感谢国家发展与改革委员会给予项目文件中文翻译工作的大力支持，使得这些研究成果能够为国内外研究社会保障的学者提供宝贵的信息资源。

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