



Green Beagle



## **Report on IPEN – EU Project Meeting in Shenzhen, China**

In the framework of the EU-funded project: *Strengthening the capacity of pollution victims and civil society organizations to increase chemical safety in China (China Chemical Safety Project)*

23 September 2013

The overall objective of this Project is to strengthen the capacity of pollution victims and civil society organization to promote chemical safety policies in China. One of the three principal objectives is to improve capacities and abilities of impacted communities and environmental groups for involvement in policy making. An important activity under this objective is training on public participation in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and right to know. The Shenzhen workshop serves as one of three major forums to be held under the Project.

The meeting convened by the Project in Shenzhen focused on EIA with the goal of advancing public participation and true compliance with EIA laws. The meeting included information on China's EIA process, especially on the public participation, responsibilities for project owners, EIA institutes and environmental protection departments. Moreover, it reported on what problems may occur in EIA reports and how civil society can act to ensure compliance with EIA laws.

The main purpose of this meeting was to receive comments from potential users on the guidebook, present key information that the public should know for participation in EIA process, and discuss how people can act to acquire information and ask other stakeholders to take their responsibilities.

# Photos from the Shenzhen EIA Forum



Xie Xinyuan from Green Beagle is introducing key messages in the Guidebook and how to use it.



Senior engineer Feng Haitao says the sewage storage project is not necessary or feasible from engineering aspect.



Ding Wenzhang from Chongqing Liangjiang Volunteer Service Center presents their website for EIA public participation.



Martin Skalsky from Arnika shows the principles of EIA public participation in the EU.



Participants of the EIA Forum



Green Beagle



## **Forum on public participation in environmental impact assessment (EIA): Discussion on Guidebook for EIA Public Participation**

In the framework of the EU-funded project: *Strengthening the capacity of pollution victims and civil society organizations to increase chemical safety in China (China Chemical Safety Project)*

Shenzhen, China

23 September 2013

On 20 June 2013, the First Forum on Public Participation in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was held in Beijing jointly by Green Beagle and IPEN in cooperation with Nature University to present problems that usually occur in real-world cases such as lack of effective public participation and rapid approval of EIA reports that could undermine EIA laws. The forum also witnessed differences in focus, method and capacity among NGOs; therefore, more exchange and study in public participation in the EIA process is necessary for NGOs.

To promote authentic public participation and true compliance with the EIA laws, Green Beagle compiled a draft guidebook on NGO/public participation in EIA together with other NGOs and experts to explain what EIA is, what public participation in EIA means, how citizens and NGOs can participate in an EIA process, what types of problems usually occur in EIA process and real cases. The draft was discussed at the Shenzhen Forum.

To involve potential users of the guidebook and receive their comments in the early stage of the writing, Green Beagle and IPEN hosted the second EIA forum in Shenzhen on 23 September 2013. Pollution victims from current case studies of the China Chemical Safety Project came to this workshop including the Qihua PVC Plant in Heilongjiang Province, Union Chemical Plant in Shouguang, Shandong Province, and Likeng Incinerator and Huiyang Incinerator in Guangdong Province. Green Beagle had completed a draft of the guidebook before the meeting and disseminated it to the participants beforehand. Discussion in the meeting focused on the draft and more fresh cases were brought forward by some participants.

Green Beagle and IPEN jointly hosted this forum in cooperation with Nature University. This conference is a project activity of the EU-funded project; *Strengthening the capacity of pollution victims and civil society organizations to increase chemical safety in China (China Chemical Safety Project)*.

Venue: Liyuan Hotel, No. 1018, Central Section of Hongling Rd, Luohu District in Shenzhen City

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## Annex 1. Agenda

Time	Topic	Speaker
9:20-9:30	Registration	
9:30-10:00	Draft of guidebook of NGO participation in EIA for discussion	Xie Xinyuan, Green Beagle
10:00-10:50	Plenary discussion: framework of the guide book	
10:50-11:00	Tea Break	
11:00-11:30	EIA for Underground Sewage Storage Project of Donghao River in Guangzhou	Feng Haitao, Former Vice Chief Engineer of Guangzhou Municipal Administration
11:30-12:00	Introduction for EIA Public Participation Website	Ding Wenzhang, Chongqing Liangjiang Volunteers
12:00-13:30	Lunch	
13:30-14:30	How to Acquire Environmental Information	Dong Jian, Green Collar
14:30-15:00	Case: Broad Group Skyscraper Project in Hunan Province	Liu Huili, Nature University
15:00-16:00	How NGOs in EU participate in EIA process, and a case	Martin Skalský
16:00-16:10	Tea Break	
16:10-17:10	Group Discussions: 1. How to get access to EIA information of a project; 2. What problem may occur in EIA reports; 3. How can NGO and the public participate in EIA	
17:10-17:40	Presentation for Group Discussion	
17:40-17:50	Ending	

Abbreviations: EIA, environmental impact assessment

## **Strengthening the capacity of pollution victims and civil society organizations to increase chemical safety in China**

This is an EU-funded project of IPEN with partners Arnika and Green Beagle that aims to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations and communities impacted by pollution to increase chemical safety in China. The Project (also known as the China Chemical Safety Project) is being implemented in China over two years with total EU funding of €344,580 and EU contribution of 77.84% of the total cost.

The Project includes:

- Improving capacities of impacted communities and civil society organizations for involvement in policy making
- Training on public participation in environmental impact assessment
- Generating new publicly available data about pollution and impacted communities that contribute to increased implementation of local and national chemical safety policies
- Raising awareness on emissions-related pollution

IPEN is a leading global organization working to establish and implement safe chemicals policies and practices that protect human health and the environment around the world. IPEN's mission is a toxics free future for all.

[www.ipen-china.org](http://www.ipen-china.org)

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## Annex 2. Meeting participants

Name	Affiliation
Jiang Youqing	Public Participation Service Institute of Guangzhou
Zhang Qiubei	Individual
Tao Yumei	Pollution victim in Huiyang
Xu Biyu	Guangdong Lvjian Law Office
Ding Wenzhang	Chongqing Liangjiang Volunteer Service Center
Mao Jianwei	Green Hunan
Chen Xiangxue	Green Kunming
Wang	Pollution victim in Shouguang
Li Manling	Hongkong University
Wang Baoqin	Pollution victim in Qiqihaer
Wang Hui	Pollution victim in Pengshan
Liu Song	Green Anhui
Wang Nan	Pollution victim in Huiyang
Liu Huili	Free Bird
Xu Junda	Free Bird
Wang Kai	Green Stone
Zhu Qing	Green Collar
Wang Hengyu	Shenzhen Environmental Science Institute
Fan Wenjin	Pollution victim in Likeng
Martin Skalsky	Arnika
Mao Da	Green Beagle
Xia Jun	Beijing Zhongzi Law Office
Dong Jian	Green Collar
Qiu Meiling	Green Collar
Shao Weiguo	Guangdong Lvjian Law Office
Dai Guangliang	Guangzhou New Lifestyle Society for Environmental Protection
Chen Shanghua	Protect the Sima River
Murong Shenlin	Protect the Sima River
Feng Haitao	Protect the Sima River
Li Zhiping	Guangzhou Senior Engineer Society
Su Mingjiu	Guangzhou Senior Engineer Society
Li Junqiang	Guangdong Lvjian Law Office

