



Green Beagle

## Report on IPEN – EU Project Meeting in Tianjin, 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 July 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 Tianjin workshop serves as one of six major trainings to be held under the Project.

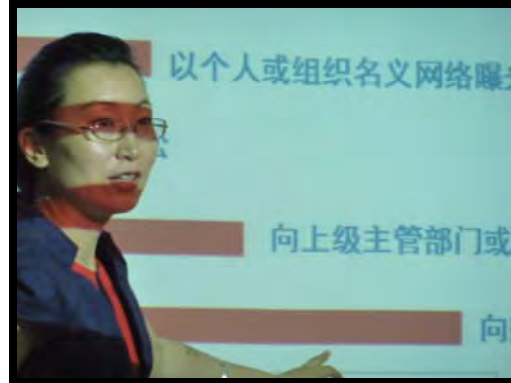
The meeting convened by the Project in Tianjin was a regional workshop for civil society groups, pollution victims and residents located in northeastern China, Inner Mongolia, and middle-northern part of China. The Tianjin workshop explored issues surrounding EIA with the goal of advancing public participation and true compliance with EIA laws. The meeting included information on strategies for EIA applications, relevant international agreements, EIA process in the EU, information on metals contamination, and participation and experiences of both civil society organizations and pollution victims.

The combination of participants provided an excellent opportunity for two-way information sharing and capacity building. For example, participants learned detailed policy information from Professor Wu Jing (Nankai University) and Dong Jian (Green Collar in Tianjin) on EIA along with legal information from attorneys Liu Jinmei (Center for Legal Assistance to Pollution Victims) and Xia Jun (a noted attorney on cases in China). IPEN's Joe DiGangi provided numerous examples of international agreements establishing information disclosure and public participation as fundamental chemical safety principles along with descriptions of the EIA systems in EU, USA, and Taiwan. In addition, the meeting provided an opportunity for clear examples of the difficulties faced by pollution victims as outlined in presentations by Pan Zhizhong, Wang Baoqin, Feng Xuemin, and Fang Junjie. Finally, the meeting provided participants with access to an academic expert on metals during the presentation and question period conducted by Professor Cheng Nengchang of the Guangdong Institute of Eco-environment and Soil Sciences. Feedback from participants indicated that the presentations were highly relevant and the opportunity to exchange experiences and plans for greater civil society participation was extremely useful.

# Photos from the Tianjin workshop



Mao Da, Green Beagle, opens the Tianjin workshop



Professor Wu Jing of Nankai University presents China's information disclosure policy and how organizations have tried to implement it.



Feng Xuemin, from Miyun describes toxic waste dumping on farmland from a Korean brake pad manufacturer. This is a case study of the Project.



Wang Baoqin from Qiqihar describes the situation in her community which contains many old chemical manufacturing and industrial facilities including a mercury-based PVC plant which is a Project case study



Group photo of participants in the Tianjin meeting

# Annex 1. Agenda



Green Beagle



## **Forum on Environmental Impact Assessment: Policy, public participation, and pollution**

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)*

Tianjin, China

19 June 2013

Environmental impact assessment (EIA) is a key component of chemical safety policy. However, most residents are not familiar with EIA and do not know how to effectively participate in the process. According to the *Law on Environmental Impact Assessment*, *Interim Measure on Public Participation in Environmental Impact Assessment* and *Measure on Disclosure of Environmental Information* enacted in 2003, 2006 and 2008 respectively, participation and views of local residents should be an important part of developing EIA reports for new projects and those for expansion. However, during assessment of projects, authentic public participation in the EIA process is often weak or ignored. These problems are compounded by pressures to rapidly approve EIA reports and move ahead with projects. Lack of effective public participation in the EIA process undermines effective implementation of Chinese law and weakens efforts of local, provincial, and federal authorities to deal with concerns regarding harms to human health and the environment.

This conference seeks to explore issues surrounding EIA with the goal of advancing public participation and true compliance with EIA laws. Invited participants will include pollution victims, public interest civil society representatives, lawyers, reporters, EIA experts, researchers, government officials, and representatives of the European Union. The conference location in Tianjin reflects ongoing work in northeastern China, Inner Mongolia, and middle-northern part of China with local public interest civil society groups and residents. Pollution cases in this area include incineration, chemicals, and heavy metals. The meeting will include opportunities for discussion so that pollution victims can discuss relevant issues with other victims, public interest NGOs, lawyers and experts and try to develop strategies for further actions to achieve chemical safety. 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: No. 3 Qiwei Road, Green Tree Inn, Hedong District, Tianjin

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Mr. Dong Jian, mobile phone 18058356821, [dj@fgylc.org](mailto:dj@fgylc.org)

## Agenda

Time	Topic	Speaker
8:30-8:50	Opening speech	Mao Da, Green Beagle
8:50-9:10	China's environmental information disclosure policy	Professor Wu Jing, Nankai University
9:10-9:30	Environmental information disclosure situation, problems and challenges	Liu Jinmei, lawyer, Center for Legal Assistance to Pollution Victims
9:30-9:50	How an affected community can get the full EIA report	Pan Zhizhong, pollution victim from Liushouying Town, Funing County, Qinhuangdao
9:50-10:00	Tea Break	
10:00-10:20	Environmental NGO's experience in applying to obtain information	Dong Jian, Green Collar
10:20-11:00	Information disclosure and international chemicals agreements	Joe DiGangi, IPEN
11:00-11:20	Open discussion	
11:20-12:00	Discussion with experts and Q & A	
12:00-13:30	Lunch time	
13:30-13:50	Water pollution and cancer in Xiadian, Hebei Province	Feng Jun, pollution victim, Xiadan
14:10-14:30	PVC manufacture's illegal emission impacts on local people and environment in Qiqihar	Wang Baoqin, pollution victim, Qiqihar
14:30-14:50	Bio-medicine manufacture's illegal emission impacts on local people and environment in Jining	Wang Chunsheng, Fertilizer plant; Shangdong Province
14:50-15:10	Heavy metal emission's impacts on people and environment	Chen Nengchang, Guangdong Institute of Eco-environment and Soil Sciences
15:10-15:30	Heavy metal pollution caused by waste from auto brake manufacture in Miyun, Beijing	Feng Xuemin, pollution victim, Miyun
15:30-15:50	Experience of residents located near incinerators	Fang Junjie, affected resident of Beijing Gao'antun incinerator plant
15:50-16:10	Incineration emission and pollution control in China	Le Jialin, an engineer on incineration, China National Electric Equipment Corp
16:40-16:55	Discussion	
16:55-17:00	End	

Abbreviations: EIA, environmental impact assessment; Q & A, question and answer

## **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 partner 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

Current case studies of the China Chemical Safety Project featured in this workshop include the Miyun waste dump and the Qihua PVC plant. Participants in the workshop include residents from other communities that form part of the project.

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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**European Union**

The Tianjin conference on Environmental Impact Assessment is organized with the assistance and funding of the European Union. The contents of this action are the sole responsibility of the IPEN and Green Beagle and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.

The European Commission is the EU's executive body. "The European Union is made up of 27 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development while maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedom. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and people beyond its borders."

## Annex 2. Meeting participants

Name	Affiliation
Mao Da	Green Beagle
Chen Liwen	Green Beagle
Xie Xinyuan	Green Beagle
Dong Jian	Green Collar
Zhao Liang	Green Collar
Joe DiGangi	IPEN
Pan Zhizhong	Pollution victim in Qinhuangdao
Liu Jinmei	Lawyer from Center for Legal Assistance to Pollution Victims
Wang Baoqin	Pollution victim in Qiqihaer
Liu Yuying	Pollution victim in Miyun
Feng Xuemin	Pollution victim in Miyun
Yang Fujiang	Pollution victim in Miyun
Wang Chunsheng	Pollution victim in Shouguang
Chen Nengchang	Guangdong Soil Science Research Institute
Lin Tianchong	SGS
Wu Jing	Nankai University
Tian Lei	Green Collar volunteer
Guo Wenqing	Green Collar volunteer
Wu Ting	Tianjin Environmental Protection Bureau
Xia Jun	Zhongzi Law Offices
Sun Yu	Beijing Foreign Language University