



Australian Government

AusAID



CLIENTS|PEOPLE|PERFORMANCE

Australia China Environment Development Program

Partners for a Better Environment

Newsletter

ISSUE 4



Changma Reservoir - Shule River Basin

Foreword

Welcome to this fourth edition of the ACEDP E-Newsletter. The ACEDP is experiencing strong and continuous growth with three projects up and running and a further four scheduled for mobilisation over the next three months. The recent round for new applications that closed on March 20, resulted in a good field of high quality joint Chinese/Australian applications. Of the 22 applications received eleven were approved in principle, subject to production of an activity design document. Thank you to all that have contributed – your continuing pro-active support is highly valuable.



Gunther Mau,
Program Manager

Program Briefing

The ACEDP is a five-year, \$25m Australian Government, AusAID initiative with the objective of supporting and improving policy development in China in the area of environmental protection and natural resources management. Initially the focus is on water resources and river basin management, however inclusion of other high priority areas is a possibility.

The ACEDP aims to facilitate enduring partnerships between Australian and Chinese agencies, institutions and individuals engaged in national environmental policy development and implementation through a combination of high level policy dialogue, capacity building measures and collaboration on discreet activities that demonstrate good environmental governance.

Integral to the success of the ACEDP is ownership by the two partner countries. This is achieved through a joint Australian Chinese annual planning process that determines the strategic direction of the ACEDP. While the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and the Chinese Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) 'own' the ACEDP, a group of national-level government agencies in both countries constitute its main decision making body. An independent Environmental Advisory Team (EAT), comprising internationally renowned experts, provides high-level appraisal and review functions and ensures activities are consistent with ACEDP objectives.

Throughout its lifetime the program will remain dynamic and flexible to respond to emerging environmental policy priorities. It also provides a unique level of access and engagement for executive level Australian and Chinese Government officials.

PROGRAM CORE PARTNERS

Program Owners

The Governments of Australia and the People's Republic of China own the Program and determine its strategic direction. They are represented by the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), and the Chinese Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM).

For more information, please visit the following websites:

AusAID <http://www.ausaid.gov.au/>

MOFCOM <http://www.mofcom.gov.cn/>

Chinese Program Core Partners

Four national-level Chinese government agencies are the inaugural Chinese program core partners for the ACEDP. They are the National Development & Reform Commission (NDRC); the Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP); the Ministry of Water Resources (MWR) and the State Forestry Administration (SFA).

For more information, please visit the following websites:

NDRC <http://www.ndrc.gov.cn>

MEP <http://www.mep.gov.cn>

MWR <http://www.mwr.gov.cn>

SFA <http://www.forestry.gov.cn>

Australian Program Core Partners

Five Australian national-level government agencies are the inaugural Australian program core partners for the ACEDP. They are the Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF), the Australian Government Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (DEWHA), the Australian Government Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) and the Australian Government National Water Commission (NWC).

For more information, please visit the following websites:

CSIRO <http://www.csiro.au>

DAFF <http://www.daff.gov.au>

DEWHA <http://www.environment.gov.au>

MDBA <http://www.mdba.gov.au>

NWC <http://www.nwc.gov.au>

ACEDP Spotlights

ELEVEN NEW PROJECTS APPROVED FOR FUNDING

The recent round of application for funding under the ACEDP resulted in a total of 22 applications that were independently assessed by the program Environment Advisory Team EAT, taking into account initial screening by the PCO and views espoused by program core partners.

Approved activities cover a wide range of issues that are of top policy priority to both Governments, including: climate change adaptation (capacity building and policy options); bilateral high-level water policy meeting; support for the 4th International Yellow River Forum; ecological monitoring; community based carbon sequestration; total channel control technology applications and; drought management measures. Full details are available on the ACEDP website.

Successful applicants will be asked to produce an activity design document to ACEDP specifications that will form the basis of a contract with parties. Implementation will then commence forthwith. This brings the total number of approved ACEDP projects to 23.

The current round also provided an opportunity for the PCO to trial its new GPS Screening Guidelines (Gender Mainstreaming, Public Participation and Social Impact Management) that will be further refined based on lessons learned during the coming months.

THIRD MEETING OF THE AUSTRALIA CHINA HIGH-LEVEL ROUNDTABLE

The third meeting of the ACEDP 'governing board' is tentatively scheduled for 27 July in Beijing. Senior level delegations from 12 ministry-level agencies in China and Australia will be invited to attend, including the nine program core partners, the two program owners AusAID

and MOFCOM and the Australian Government Department of Climate Change.

DATABASE OF AUSTRALIAN ORGANISATIONS INTERESTED IN PARTNERING WITH CHINA

Following a good response to an advertisement in the Australian papers in early 2009, the PCO is now developing a separate database on the ACEDP website through which Australian agencies can offer their services and market their expertise. There is no PCO endorsement of suppliers and the PCO cannot and will not vouchsafe the accuracy of data.

The new database is expected to be available in mid year. Agencies /organisations that are interested in this service should contact the PCO in the first instance. The PCO is planning for one or two re-advertisements.

THE THIRD AUSTRALIA-CHINA LEGAL PROFESSION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



Chinese delegations with Secretary Roger Wilkins AO

The third Australia-China Legal Profession Development program started on 19 February 2009 with the arrival of nine Chinese lawyers and government officials in Australia, one of whom was funded under the ACEDP.

The first four weeks of this four-month professional development program involves training focussed on information of the Australian legal system and related institutions, introduction to the Common Law and study visits targeting the specific areas of interests to the participants. This initial period included trips to Melbourne, Canberra and Sydney, with visits to relevant legal institutions and government departments and agencies including the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and Arts and the Department of Climate Change. It involved intensive training, including attendance at the Australian Securities and Investment Commission Summer School. In Canberra trainees spent two days at the Attorney-General's Department, visiting the International Legal Services Policy Section, the Office of International Law, the Office of Legal Services Coordination, the Human Rights Branch, the Copyright Branch, the Office of Legislative Drafting and, the Publishing and Native Title Unit. In question and answer sessions trainees gained a good understanding of the responsibilities of the Department and the work undertaken there.

The second phase of the program began on 23 March 2009 and involved the Chinese trainees undertaking placements over twelve weeks in law firms, legal professional bodies and Australian State Government agencies in Perth, Melbourne, Sydney and Canberra.

The Program is an initiative of the International Legal Services Advisory Council (ILSAC) and is jointly implemented by Australia's Attorney-General's Department and the Law Council of Australia, in conjunction with the Chinese Ministry of Justice and the All China Lawyers Association.

The program aims at developing and strengthening links between the legal professions of the two countries, promoting understanding in both Australian and China of each country's legal system and, providing assistance to China in its process of legal reform through work/study placements in areas where Australia has acknowledged expertise.

Under its Emerging Priorities component, the ACEDP supported an official from the State Council Legislative Affairs Office (SCLAO) with responsibilities for drafting

legislation in the area of agriculture, natural resources and environmental protection to participate in the 2009 program.

ACEDP ANNUAL TRAINING & RETREAT WORKSHOP 2



Retreat Workshop

23 - 24 April 2009 - ACEDP run its second annual training & retreat workshop, providing PCO staff and Chinese partner agencies with an opportunity to further explore the findings from the 'Program Progress Review and Policy Gap Analysis' that was conducted by the EAT in early 2009 and discuss the revised 'Monitoring & Evaluation' (M&E) Framework.



Retreat Participants

In total, 17 participants from AusAID, NDRC, MEP, MWR, SFA and the PCO attended the workshop. EAT member Dr Si Zhizhong presented findings from the Review/Gap Analysis and the ACEDP M&E specialist, Mr Ty Morrissey explained the revised MEF and proposed information flow. The Program Manager, Mr Gunther Mau, updated partners on current program issues and introduced the proposed quarterly/biannual meetings and the forthcoming 3rd meeting of the annual High-level Roundtable HLRT-3. Core partners were engaged in

discussions on the issues addressed by EAT's review, proposed meetings and improvement on communication and engagement actions.

Outcomes from the training and retreat workshop included a strengthening of understanding and communication between PCO and Chinese Core Partners, as well as an increased understanding of ACEDP progress review and policy gap analysis and M&E frameworks among participants.

ACEDP BRAINSTORMING WORKSHOP - MANAGING THE THREATS TO SUSTAINABLE WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT



Shiyang - Shule workshop

A brainstorming workshop on sustainable management of water resources in China was held from 25th to 26th May in Beijing. The workshop aimed to increase understanding of water scarcity issues in China with a particular reference to two inland river basins in Gansu Province, the Shiyang and Shule basins, and to learn from Australian and international donor initiatives for improving management and adjustment to water scarcity problems.

The workshop identified Chinese capacity needs in sustainable water resources management and, more specifically, in managing risks resulting from water resource scarcity. It scoped a potential activity for Gansu Province that could be considered for funding under the ACEDP and/or by other donors.

The 1st day of the workshop provided a good platform for information sharing by all participants. Research institutes

such as THU, IWHR and CAS gave an overall picture of water shortage problem in China's inland river basins; MWR briefed on national policy approaches for managing risks; Shiyang and Shule river basin representatives gave introductions of the situation in Gansu; and Australian attendees from the University of Melbourne and the Victorian Government Department of Sustainability and Environment introduced the water resources situation in Australia and management approaches focussing on both technical and policy aspects. Participants were then given an overview of relevant donor projects, including the DFID-funded 'Water Resources Demand Management Assistance Project' and the EU-funded 'EU-China River Basin Management Project'. AusAID introduced its scholarship and small activities schemes.

The 2nd day of the workshop focussed on identifying specific needs for technical assistance that could be provided under a potential ACEDP funded project. Working Groups were established to further narrow down and specify these needs and to match them with the ACEDP strategic framework and funding limitations. Case studies, eg on the 'Murray-Darling Basin Sustainable Yields Project' and the 'Goulburn-Broken Catchment Study' helped participants better understand Australian management approaches in river basins of a similar nature to the two targeted inland rivers in Gansu. It further helped them to identify examples of best practice that would be useful for a mutual exchange activity.

The next step is an activity outline that the Australian experts will circulate to Chinese experts for comment, before a full activity design document is prepared in time for submission under the ACEDP's second round of funding in September/October 2009.



Panel&Group Discussion

Policy and Environment Spotlights

AUSTRALIA

Murray-Darling Basin Authority Appointments

Source: http://www.mdba.gov.au/system/files/mr_mdba_appointments.pdf

Minister for Climate Change and Water, Senator the Hon Penny Wong MP, announced on the 14th May, the appointment of the Chair and Members of the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA).

“The independent Murray-Darling Basin Authority will play a crucial role in helping Basin communities, irrigators and our rivers prepare for a future with less water,” Senator Wong said.

“The Authority members will draw on their expertise and experience to prepare a Basin Plan that will, for the first time, set a long-term sustainable limit on the use of both surface and groundwater in the Murray-Darling Basin.”

Michael Taylor AO has been appointed for four years as Chairperson along with part-time members Dianne Davidson, David Green, Dr. Diana Day and Professor Barry Hart.

Michael Taylor has held senior positions in the Commonwealth and Victorian public services for 17 years. He has recently retired as Secretary for the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government.

“Mr Taylor’s leadership qualities and breadth of experience and expertise in water, the environment, natural resource management and agriculture make him an ideal choice for this important new role,” Senator Wong said.

In developing the Basin Plan, the Authority will consult

widely with Basin state and territory governments and key stakeholders, including rural communities.

Mr Rob Freeman was appointed as Chief Executive and a member of the Authority in September 2008.

Restoring The Balance In The Murray-Darling Basin

Source: <http://www.environment.gov.au/water/publications/watermatters/water-matters-may-2009.html#balance>



Paiwalla wetlands pre-watering
Source M Mohell

The first Commonwealth water allocations released to the environment in the Murray-Darling Basin, took place in March 2009 with the second round having commenced mid-May 2009. In total, over 8 billion litres of water will be allocated in these two rounds.

The allocations were granted against entitlements the Commonwealth purchased through its A\$3.1 billion (approx 16 billion yuan) water entitlement buy-back program, part of ‘Water for the Future’, the Government’s 10-year, \$12.9 billion plan to secure the water supply for all Australians.

South Australia managed the first watering and contributed additional environmental water to one of the sites. This is in keeping with the partnership approach of the Commonwealth’s environmental watering program.

The four sites that received water over several weeks from March 22 were:

- Chowilla Floodplain, an icon site of The Living Murray program and part of the Riverland Ramsar site, containing large areas of River Red Gum, Black Box woodland and diverse wetland habitats, received 286 ML (megalitres or

million litres) to complement 350 ML provided by the South Australian Government;

- Paiwalla Wetland, between Mannum and Murray Bridge, listed in the Directory of Important Wetlands of Australia, containing rare and nationally listed species and frequented by significant populations of migratory water birds, received 475 ML;
- Carpark Lagoons on the Katarapko floodplain in the River Murray National Park, near Berri. Katarapko, a diverse floodplain and wetland habitat for a range of aquatic and terrestrial animals, received 200 ML targeted at protecting River Red Gums; and,
- Rocky Gully, also near Murray Bridge, a refuge site for a range of rare and nationally listed species and one of the last remaining refuge sites across the Basin for the Murray Hardyhead, had 80 ML delivered.

Watering commenced at five additional sites mid-May and will continue for several weeks in Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia.



Chowilla Floodplain as environmental watering commences
Source P. Doyle

Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme

Source: <http://www.environment.gov.au/minister/wong/2009/index.html>

Legislation to introduce a Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme, and to start reducing Australia's emissions for the first time, was introduced to Parliament on 14 May.

Minister for Climate Change and Water, Senator the Hon Penny Wong MP, said the introduction of the legislation was historic, marking the culmination of ten years of work under both Labor and Coalition governments to legislate an emissions trading scheme in the Federal Parliament.

Senator Wong said the Government remained determined to pass the package of Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme Bills in the winter session, to give certainty to business and to enable Australia to go to Copenhagen with a clear plan to meet its targets.

"Passage of the legislation this year is squarely in Australia's national interest," Senator Wong said.

"It delivers the investment certainty business needs during these difficult economic times.

"And it enables us to advocate for the global agreement we need to protect future generations of Australians from the most damaging impacts of climate change."

Earlier this month, the Government announced new measures for the CPRS, including:

- A delay in the start date of the CPRS of one year to 1 July 2011, to manage the impacts of the global recession.
- A commitment to reduce carbon pollution by 25 per cent of 2000 levels by 2020 if the world agrees to an ambitious global deal to stabilise levels of CO₂ equivalent in the atmosphere at 450 parts per million.
- The establishment of an Australian Carbon Trust to encourage households to do their bit by investing directly in reducing Australia's emissions and to drive energy efficiency in buildings.

Senator Wong said action on climate change had been delayed for too long.

"We would call on all parties to heed the calls of business groups and environment groups and pass this legislation this year," Senator Wong said.

"In addition, a number of key scientists working with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change have called for this legislation to be passed quickly so we can get on with the job of reducing carbon pollution."

Historic Purchase Of Water For The Environment

Source: <http://www.environment.gov.au/minister/wong/2009/index.html>

On the 28th May 2009 the Rudd Government completed the single largest purchase of water for the environment in Australia's history.

The Government is buying almost 240 gigalitres of water entitlements for A\$303 million (approx 1.6 billion yuan) from Twynam Agricultural Group.

That is equivalent to one half of all of the water used in Sydney each year.

The water purchased today will be used to restore the rivers and wetlands of the Murray-Darling Basin to health, with the water used exclusively for environmental flows.

This brings the total amount of water purchased by the Rudd Government to 297 gigalitres of water entitlements. The previous Government failed to directly purchase a single litre of water for the environment during its 12 years in office.

Historical over-allocation and climate change are having a devastating impact on the Murray-Darling Basin's unique environmental assets, and this purchase represents a major advance in tackling this challenge.



CHINA

Premier Wen Jiabao Vowed Continuous Increase In Investment Of Environment, Energy And Climate Change

Source: CCICED e-news

During the NPC and CPPCC sessions in March 2009, Premier Wen Jiabao reiterated the resolve to promote energy conservation, emission reduction and protection of eco-environment in his Report on the Work of the Government.

The Central Government allocated 42.3 billion yuan (approx A\$7.8 billion) to support the development of ten key energy conservation projects and environmental protection facilities. The government will

- support and promote R&D and their industrial application on technologies in new energy sources, biology, medicine, energy conservation and environmental protection
- energetically develop a circular economy and clean energy
- steadfastly save energy, water and land
- vigorously develop clean energy such as nuclear, wind, and solar power
- promote the adaptation of clean coal technology for industrial application
- strictly enforce national standards for energy consumption and environmental protection, increase the use of energy-conserving technologies and products, and promote comprehensive utilization of resources
- improve policies for energy conservation and environment protection
- strictly enforce the system of standards, assessment system and monitoring system for energy conservation and emissions reduction
- continue to intensify pollution prevention and control in key river valleys and regions
- control the spread of stony deserts and desertification
- carry out ecological conservation projects to build key forest shelterbelts, protect virgin forests, and bring the sources of dust storms affecting Beijing and Tianjin under control
- protect water, forests, grasslands, wetlands and other elements of the ecosystems
- comprehensively improve the rural environment; rectify and standardize order in the exploitation of mineral resources and develop and use marine resources wisely
- implement the National Climate Change Program and improve the capacity on addressing climate change
- intensify basic research and capacity building in meteorology, earthquake science, disaster prevention and mitigation, and surveying and mapping.



Water Strategy A Priority For China

Source: http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/cndy/2009-03/23/content_7604017.htm

China called on the international community to highlight risk management of water-led disasters and food security by putting in place joint strategies to combat the challenges facing today's world.

"We need to establish an international exchange platform for sharing data with one another, carrying out close cooperation in disaster control and relief operations, promote access to advanced technologies and facilitate cooperative mechanisms," Chen Lei, Minister of Water Resources, said at a roundtable meeting on 21 March at the 5th World Water Forum in Istanbul, Turkey.

Global climate change has intensified in recent years with extreme weather and disasters following in its wake.

To cope with such situations, China on Saturday organized the Special Session "Risk Management of Water Infrastructure Projects Related to Mega Natural Disasters" with six other countries: South Korea, Japan, Mexico, Indonesia, the United States and the Netherlands, as well as the International Commission on Large Dams.

"We agreed to enhance disaster security systems and forecasting, build up capacities for emergency response and train people for self-protection and mutual assistance to prevent deaths and minimize damages from flood and drought," he said.

As a country frequently ravaged by floods and droughts, and with its grain yields often threatened, China would join hands

with its counterparts to mitigate the effect of such disasters on food security by sharing experiences with the rest of the world. Chen said.

China Stance On Climate Talks Firm

Source: http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/bizchina/2009-05/15/content_7779948.htm

China will remain firm in its call for developed nations to cut emissions and for other nations to receive funding as the world attempts to formulate a post-Kyoto deal on climate change.

A climate change official said on 14 May 2009 that China's long-held position had been detailed in a document that will be sent to the United Nations ahead of the Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in December.

Li Gao, a division director of the Climate Change Department of National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) said: "Together with each country's document, we submit ours to the UN to facilitate the negotiations before a global climate change deal is sealed."

The Chinese government has said it would avoid promising a cut in greenhouse gases during the 2013 -2020 period.

Instead, China will consider setting a goal to improve energy efficiency by 2020, which decreases greenhouse gas emission, a source close to Li's commission said.

Li said China would also propose to establish a specific financing mechanism for the transfer of green energy technology and funding for climate change adaptation for poorer nations.



Activities Update

Note that fact-sheets for any of ACEDP projects can be downloaded from the ACEDP website in both the Chinese and English language. Please visit <http://www.acedp-partnership.org/template/English/activities.aspx>

Lake Tai Water Pollution Treatment Project

Sponsor: National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC)

Location: Wuxi & Suzhou City, Jiangsu Province

The 1.5-year A\$ 2 million project went to public tender in Australia in December 08. The tender is now closed and submissions were assessed by Technical Advisor Panels (TAP) at two meetings in March and May 2009 that made final recommendations to AusAID / MOFCOM in May 2009. Pending successful negotiation of a contract, mobilization is expected to occur in June 2009. The PCO has established a network of interested donors that will share information and explore synergies and potential cooperation. Any bi- or multilateral donor agency / NGO that are interested to join are encouraged to contact the PCO.

Inland River Basins Adjusting to Change Project

Sponsor: Ministry of Water Resources (MWR) / Gansu Water Resources Department / Shule River Basin Management Bureau / Shiyang River Basin Management Bureau
Location: Gansu Province



Opening by AusAID & MOFCOM

A 2-day brainstorming workshop was held from May 25th to 26th in Beijing. The workshop identified Chinese capacity needs in sustainable water resources management and, more specifically, in managing risks resulting from water resource scarcity. It scoped a potential activity for Gansu Province that could be considered for funding under the ACEDP and/or by other donors. The next step is an activity outline that the Australian experts will circulate to Chinese experts for comment, before a full activity design document will be prepared in time for submission under the ACEDP's second round of funding in September/October 2009.

Wetlands Management Policy, Guideline And Capacity Building Project

Sponsor: State Forestry Administration (SFA)
Location: Beijing, Hangzhou, Yinchuan, Fujian, Shandong.

This activity is currently being re-designed and a revised Activity Design Document is due to be submitted to AusAID / MOFCOM in June.

Water Ecology Compensation Policy And Mechanism Projects

Sponsor: Ministry of Water Resources (MWR) / Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP)
Location: Beijing, Danjiangkou Reservoir (MEP), Dongjiang River (MWR)

The public tender process was completed at the end of March. A Technical Advisory Panel meeting was convened on May 22nd to assess the submissions. A report was circulated to Chinese TAP members within the two ministries for comments and clearance by end May before a final recommendation will be made to AusAID/MOFCOM.

Mobilisation is not expected to occur until July 2009. The PCO will shortly invite donors/NGOs to nominate for participation in a donor network for this project. Interested parties can contact the PCO at any time.

Trans-Administrative Region Water Environment Policy / Guidelines Project

Sponsor: Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP)

Location: Shanxi, Henan, Hebei and Shandong Provinces



Site Visit



Site Visit to the River Murray



Group Photo of Participants in Sydney

A successful study tour to Australia was held from 16 - 25 April. 11 participants from national and provincial level environmental agencies attended. Through meetings and discussions with key Australian

institutions, the participants learnt how Australia handles transjurisdictional water management. The itinerary included meetings and site visits in Sydney, Canberra, on the River Murray, and in South Australia. The participants also attended a lecture and discussion with our International Water Lawyer in Sydney. The study tour successfully exposed participants to water management issues and provided opportunities for participants to form linkages with Australian agencies.

The Project is now progressing towards its final outcomes. The final workshop is scheduled tentatively on 25 June 2009.

Public Participation In Social And Environmental Impact Assessment And Basin Water Pollution Control Project

Sponsor: Ministry of Environment Protection (MEP)

Location: Jiangsu Province

This project is managed by Melbourne-based IDSS Pty Ltd (www.idss.com.au) which mobilized to China in April 2009. The PCO has called for expressions of interest in participating in a donor network and so far EU, DFID, UNDP, UNICEF and WB have responded positively. Other donor agencies/ NGOs interested in joining are encouraged to contact the PCO.

This project will be implemented in close collaboration with our other 'social' project, the 'Social Impact, Public Participation & Gender Mainstreaming Project' (see below) that went to tender the same day and was won by the same company, IDSS Pty. Ltd.

River Health And Environmental Flow In China

Sponsor: Ministry of Water Resources (MWR) / Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP)

Location: Henan Province, Guangdong Province and Liaoning Provinces

This 2-year A\$ 3.4 million activity went to public tender in Australia on 2 April and closed on 11 May 2009. Submissions will be assessed by a Technical Advisory Team tentatively planned for June 2009. Pending successful negotiation of a contract, mobilization is expected to occur in June/July of 2009. Network of interested donors will be established during the Inception phase. Please feel free to contact the PCO if you are interested.

Improving Water Efficiency Through Better Irrigation District Management And Water Rights Trading Project

Sponsor: Ministry of Water Resources (MWR) / Yellow River Conservancy Commission
Location: Henan Province and Ningxia Province

This is a merger of two project proposals, the 'Water Rights and Allocation Trading in the Yellow River Basin' and 'Management for Large Irrigation Districts (Yellow River Basin)'. A draft Activity Design Document is currently with recipient agencies MWR/YRCC for comment/endorsement.

Social Impact, Public Participation & Gender Mainstreaming Project

Sponsor: Ministry of Environmental Protection / Ministry of Water Resources / National Development & Reform Commission / State Forestry Administration / Ministry of Commerce
Location: Beijing

The project is managed by Melbourne-based IDSS Pty Ltd (www.idss.com.au) that is also implementing the Public Participation project for MEP (see above). Mobilization is scheduled for early June 09. Several donors have expressed an interest to participate in a donor network, including EU, DFID, UNDP, UNICEF and WB. Other interested parties are encouraged to contact the PCO.

Australia–China Legal Profession Development

Sponsor: Australian Government Attorney-General's Department / Chinese Ministry of Justice / Legislative Affairs Office of the State Council of the PRC
Location: Australia

Attachments and training have been completed on schedule and the project will conclude, as planned, in mid June 09.

Establishment Of A System Of Environmental-Economic Accounting For Water (SEEAW)

Sponsor: The International Centre of Excellence in Water Resources Management (ICEWARM) / Chinese Ministry of Water Resources (MWR) / China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research
Location: Australia

Following a request from China's Ministry of Water Resource, this activity has now been cancelled.

Operational Activities

Monitoring & Evaluation Framework

Significant changes were made to the ACEDP Monitoring & Evaluation Framework in May 2009. A recent review by AusAID of its aid program to China recognised a need to demonstrate tangible linkages of all AusAID funded activities to the current China Country Program Strategy (CCPS). The CCPS contains three broad result areas – influencing policy, building partnerships and capacity strengthening (at both a technical and managerial level). As a result, the ACEDP MEF has been reviewed in light of these recommendations.

The revised M&E Framework is a simple framework aimed at generating results that can be assessed and understood by a range of stakeholders. The framework provides a series of standardised indicators at the activity level that link to broader key result areas as defined in the CCPS. Flexibility is built into the framework by providing scope for individual indicators to be defined, so long as they link to the broader defined result areas.

Communication & Engagement Framework

The draft C&E Framework is available on the ACEDP website and its implementation continues. There will be no separate 'Action Plan' and instead C&E will be incorporated into ACEDP activities as required.

New Funding Guidelines

ACEDP funding guidelines will be revised prior to the 3rd meeting of the High-level Roundtable (HLRT-III) to reflect the new M&E focus on 'influencing policy', 'building partnerships' and 'strengthening capacities'.

For further information about ACEDP activities, please visit our website (www.acedp-partnership.org).



ACEDP China Office

Program Manager

Mr. Gunther Mau

Mobile: +86-139 1069 4684

Tel: +86-10-5930 1537 / Fax: +86-10-5830 1607

Email: gunther.mau@acedp-partnership.org

Address: C11, 12/F, Tower 2 Xihuan Plaza

No 1. Xiwai Avenue, Xicheng District

Beijing 100044 China

ACEDP Australia Office

Program Liaison Officer

Mr. Mark Thomson

Tel: +61-3-8687 8199 / Fax: +61-3-8687 8111

Email: mark.thomson@ghd.com.au

www.acedp-partnership.org

www.ghd.com.au