COMPONENT ONE

2016 ACTIVITIES OVERVIEW

- **Workshop on 2015 Reseach Topics**

The workshop served as the conclusion for the research activities in 2015 organised by Component 1 of SPRP and NDRC was held in Beijing on 20 January 2016. The Workshop was co- chaired by Mr. Pu Yufei, Director General, Department of Employment and Income Distribution of NDRC and Mr. Jean-Victor Gruat, C1 Resident Expert of the Project. Topics under specific review were linked to the pension reform, in direct relation with the 13th Five-Year Plan. Around 40 persons including representatives from Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, Ministry of Finance, All- China Federation of Trade Unions and the EU Delegation attended.



Workshop organized to conclude the research topics of 2015

- **Seminar on Crisis and Social Security**

The seminar on Crisis and Social Security was organized at the Institute for American Studies of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences on January 21, 2016. Mr Koen Vleminckx introduced the topic, with several scholars from CASS intervening on specific subjects. Mr. Zheng Bingwen, Director of the Institute, reacted to the presentations.



Seminar on Crisis and Social Security hosted by CASS

- **Field Survey to Shanghai on Demographic Aging**

From 1 to 3 February 2016, a project mission composed of representatives from NDRC and from Component 1 technical team visited Shanghai, a city selected as pilot site for issues related to demographic ageing and social protection. Accompanied by members of Shanghai Development and Reform Commission, the mission visited several institutions specialized in social and medical care for the elderly. It conducted useful exchanges with local authorities.



Visited a care centre for elderly at Yangjin Community, Pudong

- **Employment and Social Security Policy Dialogue and Inernational Workshop**

On 26 April 2016 in Beijing, a policy dialogue and international workshop on Employment and Social Security Policies gathered high-level officials from the European Commission and NDRC, as well as Chinese and European experts, to discuss interrelations between employment and social security policies, in the perspective of addressing emerging labour market challenges under the context of the new normal economy of China, and the recovering European economies.

Discussion further lays foundation for the continued cooperation between NDRC and the European Commission in the labour and social fields, and the results would be used in the preparation of the project's 2016 High Level Event themed onPerspective of Employment Policy and Social Security Reform 2016 - 2020.



Mr. Wang Xiaotao, Vice Chairman of NDRC met with Mme. Carmen Cano, Deputy Head of Delegation of the European Union to China and Mongolia



Participants of Policy Dialogue and International Workshop

- **Training in Guangdong on Portability of Social Security Scheme**

A training and exchange seminar was held in Foshan, Guangdong Province on 27 and 28 April 2016. 25 participants came from Development Reform Commission and Social Security Bureau of different government levels in Guangdong and Sichuan Provinces. Keynote speeches were delivered by Chinese and European experts on topics such as the integration of rural and urban pension schemes, the portability of migrant workers' social security entitlements, use of information technology in social security management, governance and financing of institutions. Representatives from local governments also presented their experiences in these areas, ensuring a fruitful dialogue and exchange among experts and participants.



Training in Foshan, Guangdong Province.

- **Training in Spain**

A training course for 22 senior officials from NDRC and DRCs at provincial level, led by Mr. Ha Zengyou, Deputy Director General, Department of Employment and Income Distribution of NDRC, was held from 19 June to 2 July 2016 in Spain (Madrid and Valladolid) around the topic of challenges posed to social security, notably pensions protection, by demographic ageing. It was organized jointly by NDRC, the Spanish Ministry of Employment and Social Security, Expertise France, and the C1 team within the Beijing Project Office, with support from the project horizontal components. During the training, some 30 lectures were delivered by Spanish and other European specialists, while Chinese members of the delegation also introduced the relevant characteristics of their demographic and social security environment.



Chinese delegation at the Spanish Ministry of Employment and Social Security

- **Dialogue and Study Visit to France and Belgium**

A Chinese delegation from NDRC, led by Mr. Pu Yufei, Director General, Department of Employment and Income Distribution, visited France and Belgium from 28 August to 4

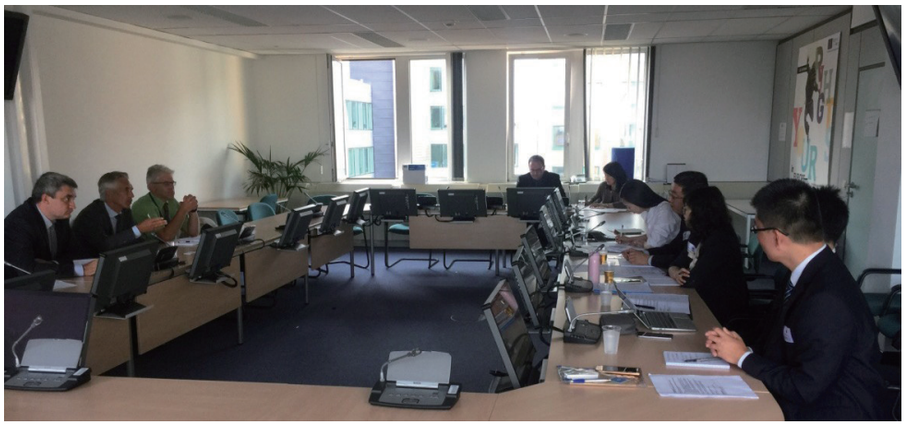
September 2016 for a Dialogue and Study Visit on the Influence of Employment and Social Security Policies on Income Distribution in Post-Crisis Era. In Paris, the delegation met with representatives from Ministry of Labour, Employment, Vocational Training and Social Dialogue, France Stratégie, as well as National Employment Public Service. They also held discussions with Expertise France on forthcoming activities. In Brussels, the delegation had in-depth discussions with eminent specialists from Belgium, Germany, OECD and European institutions organized by the Federal Public Services Social Security of Belgium. The delegation also visited the European Commission to meet with relevant officials from DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion to discuss the perspective and implementation of next-step cooperation with EU in terms of optimizing the structure of income distribution and increasing the number of middle class.



Chinese delegation with officials from Expertise France on EF office in Paris



Chinese delegation at the Federal Public Services Social Security of Belgium



Chinese delegation paid visit to DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion at the European Commission

- **Panel Discussion**

On September 6, 2016, a panel discussion meeting gathered the authors of reports on topics explored as part of project component 1 programme of activities for 2016, with NDRC and

project resident team. The EU Delegation in Beijing also took part in the meeting. Topics under review were Monitoring of the Interaction between Employment Promotion and Social Protection Policies introduced by Mr. Zhang Juwei (Institution of Population and Labour Economics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences CASS), the Financial Sustainability of Urban Basic Old Age Insurance System in China by Mr. Zheng Bingwen (CASS), Population Ageing and Possible Influences on the Economic and Society in China by Mr. Dong Keyong (Renmin University of China RUC) and the Relationship between Social-economic Development and the Redistribution Effects of Social Security by Mr. Li Shi (Beijing Normal University BNU). These works will, after finalization on the basis of the panel discussion, be used as major technical inputs for 2016 High Level Event on Perspective of Employment Policy and Social Security Reform 2016-2020 (Beijing, 28-29 September 2016).



Panel Discussion held in Beijing

- **High Level Event on Perspective of Employment Policy and Social Security Reform 2016-2020**

Organised by the Chinese National Development and Reform Commission NDRC and the Component 1 of the EU-China Social protection reform project SPRP, the project 2016 High Level Event was held in Beijing (DiaoYutai Hotel) on 28 and 29 September 2016. The theme for the event was Perspective of Employment and Social Security Reform 2016-2020.More than 120 participants attended the sessions, practically in equal proportions between Chinese representatives and representatives from European countries and international organizations. Chinese participants came from central ministries, academic circles and provincial governments, while 11 European countries and 4 international organisations were represented. Mr Wang Xiaotao, Vice Chairman of the NDRC, and Mr Hans Dietmar Schweisgut, Ambassador of the European Union to China and Mongolia, addressed the opening ceremony, chaired by Ms Cheng Jianlin, Deputy Secretary General of NDRC.The meeting consisted of 5 technical sessions, each of them co-chaired by eminent Chinese and European personalities.

Mr Claude Jeannerot, Ambassador of France in charge of International Social Relations,



NDRC Vice Chairman Wang Xiaotao addressed the opening ceremony.



Mr Hans Dietmar Schweisgut, Ambassador of the European Union to China and Mongolia, addressed the opening ceremony.

and Mr Xu Lin, Director General of the Department of Development Planning of NDRC, co-chaired the first session devoted to the review of macro-economic and employment situation during the period 2016-2020. Key-note speeches were delivered by Mr Pu Yufei, Director General of the Department of Employment and Income distribution of NDRC, and Mr Michel Servoz, Director general of the European Commission Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion.

Two eminent scholars, Mr Hu Angang, Director of the Center for China studies at Tsinghua University and Mr. Stefano Sacchi, from the University of Milano, Italy, also delivered speeches on, respectively, Innovation driving development and employment during China's thirteenth five-year plan, and Labour market policies in the European countries – Complementing structural reforms with growth.



Mr Michel Servoz, Director General of the European Commission Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion presented key-note speech.

The second session, co-chaired by Mr. Pu Yufei, Director general of the Department of Employment and Income distribution of NDRC and Mr. Tom Bevers, Chairman of the European Union Employment Committee EMCO, reviewed New-type urbanization and support policies for employment and job creation. Keynote speeches were delivered by Mr. Stefan Olsson, on EU Employment and Social Priorities – EU initiatives, Mr. Zeng Xiangquan, Renmin University, on Youth Employment policies – Good models from China, Mr. Jean-Yves Hocquet, France, on Social protection and employment – Trade off or synergies, and Mr. Zhang Juwei, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, on Population changes, labour market and reform of the Urban employees basic pension insurance system.

Mr. Jin Weigang, Director General of the Research Institute for Social security of the Ministry of Social security and Human resources, and Ms. Michaela Marksová, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs of the Czech Republic, co-chaired the third session devoted to universal coverage of social security systems and adaptation to Mmobility. Mr. Koen Vleminckx, Belgium, delivered a keynote speech on universal coverage, while Ms. Katerina-Marina Kyrieri, Greece, addressed the protection of migrant workers under social security schemes in Europe. Professor Yue Jinglun, Sun Yat-Senc University then introduced the Guangdong province case study on

transfer and continuation of pension insurance of migrant workers, while Professor Lin YI, South-western University of Finance and Economics submitted a case study on the interaction of urban and rural social security schemes in Sichuan Province.

The fourth session devoted to social efficiency and inclusive growth, was co-chaired by Ms. Oana Silvia Țoiu, Secretary of State, Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Protection of Romania, and Mr. Song Xiaowu, Former Director of the Office of North-East Region Revitalization, State Council. Mr. Cao Wenlian, International Cooperation Center ICC of NDRC, delivered a keynote speech on understanding China's pension system reform from the perspective of equity and redistribution function, followed by Mr. Antero Kiviniemi, who presented income distribution, social fairness and welfare policies in Finland. Ms. Jiang Wei, Ministry of Civil Affairs, introduced social assistance and poverty alleviation under the security of basic life needs, while Ms. Pu Haihong, Shanghai Academy of Development and Reform, presented the Shanghai case study on population ageing and related counter-measures.

Session five reviewed the sustainability of social security systems and the financial reform, with Ms. Lucia Ortiz Sanz, Deputy Director General of International Social and Labour Relations of the Ministry of Employment and Social Security of Spain and Mr. Liu Kegu, Deputy Director, Academic Advisory Board, China Centre for Economic Exchanges, acting as co-chair persons. Mr. Wolfgang Scholz Germany, introduced the "Riester Pensions" financing experience in his country. Mr. Xiong Jun, National Council for Social Security Fund talked about improvements in the financing and management system of the social security fund, while Mr. Zhang Bingwen, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences delivered a keynote speech on the Financial sustainability of the Urban basic old-age insurance system in China.

Mr. Jean-Victor Gruat, SPRP project, presided over the closing ceremony, where Mr. Giuseppe Conte, SPRP Project Leader, Mr. Cyril Bouyeure, Special Adviser to the President, Expertise France, and Ms. Song Gongmei, Deputy Director General of the International Cooperation Center ICC of the NDRC, addressed the audience.



Group photo

- **Study Visit and Dialogue to France, the Czech Republic and Germany**

From October 24 to 29, 2016, NDRC conducted a study visit to France and the Czech Republic on the theme of the reform, modernisation and coordination of social security schemes, with special reference to migrant workers and computerisation. In France, the delegation met with the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, Pensions Advisory Board, CLEISS (the national liaison body for migrant workers' social security rights), National Pensions Information Technology Center, etc. In the Czech Republic, the delegation held discussions with the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs and Social Security Administration. After finished the study visit and dialogue, the NDRC delegation continued its trip to Germany until November 2, where the representatives held discussions with the Rhein-Bonn-Sieg University concerning the organisation of a training course in 2017 under Component 1 framework of activities.



NDRC delegation had meeting in the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs of France, joined by the representatives from Project's pilot sites Sichuan Province and Guandong Province.