3.1 Component Three

Component Three was in charge of pursuing 3 of the 11 results assigned to the project. Its activities focused on three main areas: Promulgating and enforcing the Social Assistance Law and the regulations on rural and urban minimum standards of living; Developing of legal framework on unified standards for defining social assistance benefits, target groups, low income families; and, Improving care for poor rural people and disabled people as well public information and transparency on social assistance policy.

Activities conducted in-country and abroad consisted mainly of research, technical visits, training, policy dialogue and development of pilot schemes at the city and county level.

3.1.1 Who is Who in Component Three

The main Chinese stakeholder for Component Three activities is the Department of Social Assistance within the MoCA. The Center of Monitoring and Verification for Low Income Families of MoCA under the leadership of Department of Social Assistance is in charge of practical operations within China.  On behalf of the Consortium, Ministry of Family, Labour and Social policy of Poland acts as Component 3 coordinator. The Component secretariat is handled by Expertise France.

The project team in Beijing consisted of a Resident Expert, a component assistant and short-term Chinese experts.

[Who is Who in Component Three](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/C1/WHOISWHOC1.pdf) file no 1

3.1.2 Results pursued

Component 3 was in charge of pursuing project results R.9 to R.11. It did so focusing of the main related challenges affecting the China social assistance system, for which it formulated a number of policy recommendations, drawing inspiration from in-depth national analysis of the situation and relevant European experience.

[Component 3 Results pursued](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/C1/C1RESULTS%20PURSUED.pdf) file no2

3.1.3 Baseline Data

The project component 3 produced two reports summarising the overall situation concerning the pension system in China and its need for reform, which were the main focus of its activities. The first report (2015) presented a global picture, while the second one (2017) insisted on the specificities of the system.

[Baseline data on](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/C1/baselineC1.pdf) the social assistance systemfile no3

3.1.4 Audience of Project results

The realm of Component 3 project beneficiaries includes beyond the main Chinese stakeholders, the Ministry of Civil Affairs, a wide array of ministerial bodies and nation-wide NGOs. The final beneficiaries are indeed vulnerable groups of China (elderly, disabled, children, women, etc.).

[Audience of Project results (Component 3)](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/C1/audienceC1.pdf)file no4

3.1.5 List of Topics

Under each of the [Results](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/#results) assigned to the project, the Grant application form foresaw that a list of topics would be explored, that were deemed to concur best to the pursuance of said results. The list was to be revised and adjusted to better reflect the priorities of the Government and the evolution in the prevailing economic and social context. As far as Component Three was concerned, the initial list of 18 topics was amended on a yearly basis, to cover all relevant aspects of reform in social protection policy and employment promotion.

[Final list of topics](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/C1/C1TOPICS.pdf) file no5

3.1.6 List of Experts

C3 Activities facilitated contact between Chinese and European Experts on 140 opportunities. This involved 126 EU experts (1/3 female, 2/3 male) from 7 countries and 6 international organizations the WB, European Social Network, ADB, ect.

High level Chinese specialists involved in C3 project activities numbered 34, contributing to national researches conducted on 11 technical topics.

(work in progress)

[List of EU Experts](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/C1/C1EUEXPERTS.pdf) file no6

[List of Chinese Experts](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/C1/C1CNEXPERTS.pdf) file no7

3.1.7 List of countries visited

Overseas activities conducted under Component three programme of Activities included Policy dialogue -ministerial level visits (3), high level study visits (5) and training (1)

(work in progress)

[Countries visited](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/C1/C1overseas.pdf) file no8

3.1.8 Work Summary

Summary of works conducted by respective components was included in half-yearly [Component status reports](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/C1/C1Statusreports/) (folder 1) and submitted to the EU as evidence of tasks accomplished under yearly [Interim reports](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/#_Project_Interim_reports).

(work in progress)

*3.1.8.0 The 2015 High Level Event HLE*

The project [Grant Application Form](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/#_The_Grant_application) provided for the organization of high profile international Conferences in order to *set up the conditions for activating and cultivating a close cooperation with all the actors of the SPRP project (Result R.1)*. Such events were expected to be organized yearly from 2015. The HLE assigned to Component 3 took place in Beijing on 15 and 16 September 2015. It gathered over a hundred twenty participants, including 4 EU MS ministerial level and 2 ministerial level from China as well the Ambassador of the EU in China. Among participants (speakers and panelist) were Chinese and European specialists coming from 11 countries and international organizations, to exchange over legal framework of social assistance (benefits and services) and in Europe. Some 30 communications were made by renowned Chinese (12) and European (15) experts and decision-makers over five sessions co-chaired by high level Chinese and European personalities.

The proceedings of the 2015 HLE were published in Conference report volume publications in English and in Chinese.

HLE conference report fileno9

*3.1.8.1 Policy recommendations*

One of the major aims of the Project was to draft selective recommendations for future reform proposals in the realm of social protection, for the consideration of competent Government organs, and primarily of the respective project partners.

Policy recommendations emanating from works conducted under Component three programmes of activities were first discussed in panel discussions and within workshops and subsequently identified under yearly volumes (in English and Chinese languages). They were publicly accessible from the Project website to render continued broad discussion possible in all interested circles

(work in progress)

Folder 2

Reform Proposals 2015

Reform Proposals 2016

Reform Proposals 2017

Reform Proposals 2018

*3.1.8.2 Assessment and other reports*

Research work conducted under the framework of Component Three programmes of activities materialized in Assessment reports produced by Chinese Experts on [envisaged topics](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/#_3.1.5_List_of), backed by reports on European situation in corresponding sector. The latter being either compendia of best practices, comparative studies and policy recommendations. Over the existence of the project, a golden thread framed the choice of topics for any given year, as follows:

Folder3

[2015 - Volume](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/C1/2015Reports.html)

[2016 - Volume](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/C1/2016Reports.html)

[2017 - Volume](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/C1/2017Reports.html)

[2018 - Volume](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/C1/2018Reports.html)

*3.1.8.3 Workshops and other meetings*

Findings from research works were discussed first so-called panel discussion and workshops meetings, in fact peer reviews where researchers (Chinese and some European) could submit their preliminary findings to MoCA, the project office and EUD representatives and where refined conclusions and recommendations were submitted to a broader audience. The [2015 High Level Event](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/#_3.1.8.0_The_2016)  is to be considered as a particularly important International Workshop.

(work in progress)

[Panel discussion meetings](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/C1/PDMeetings/)

Workshop meetings

[Other meetings](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/C1/othermeetings.html)

*3.1.8.4 Dialogue and Study visits*

One of the important goals of the EU-China SPRP being to facilitate interaction and mutual understanding among European and Chinese decision makers in the areas of employment and social protection, Component Three yearly programme of activities included Dialogue and Study visits organised abroad for MoCA high-level officials from the central and provincial level. Those focused on themes related to the topics under review for any given year, the choice of host countries also being specific to the said topics. As part of the programme of activities for [Pilot sites](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/#_3.1.8.6_Pilot_sites)  were included under 2018 programmes of activities.

(work in progress)

2016

Ministerial visit to Poland & Spain, April 2016

Study visit on the framework of social assistance - legal framework; minimum standards of living; services for specific vulnerable groups, Romania, Czech Republic & Poland, June 2016

2017

Ministerial visit to Italy, May 2017

Training in France on Social Assistance Benefits and Services Legal Framework, Implementation and Monitoring, France, June 11-24th, 2017

Study visit on social assistance support for vulnerable groups standards and accessibility of benefits, monitoring and key challenges, Romania & Poland, September 13th-20th, 2017

Study visit on social assistance: means testing; policy implementation and monitoring, Italy & Belgium, November 30th-December 7th, 2017 (Jointly with the Coordination Meeting in Rome)

2018

Study visit on social assistance legal framework; overall resources social assistance benefits’ targeting and development of social services, Lithuania & Sweden, May 27th -June 3rd, 2018

Study visit on social assistance and social services for vulnerable groups – standards; targeting; administration and stakeholders, Slovenia & Czech, October 21st-28th, 2018

Ministerial visit to Poland & Belgium, December 2018

*3.1.8.5 Training activities*

Component Three activities included high-level training organised overseas for some 15 MoCA cadres, from central or provincial levels. Training was conducted within two weeks time in one country, around few topics selected for review. Sessions were a mixed of class-room and on-the-spot training, with theoretical courses delivered by experienced experts from both the host country and other European countries. Training materials were compiled and published in English and Chinese language. Participants in overseas training activities showed a high level of satisfaction for these exercises, as per the evaluation systematically conducted at the end of the activities. In 2018, an ad hoc training on standards in the social assistance benefits and social services was held in Beijing for MoCA and other Government representatives from Component Three [pilot sites](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/#_3.1.8.6_Pilot_sites).

(work in progress)

2016 training France

*3.1.8.6 Pilot sites*

The Grant application form provided that, during the inception phase, the Consortium will identify pilot sites if requested by the Chinese stakeholders. Concerning C3 component, pilot sites were identified and endorsed by the PAC meeting with the following specific attributes.

* Component 3 Pilot - Rural Comprehensive Reforms - “On-demand Assistance”—Pilot Venue Work Program of Da’an City, Jilin Province
* Component 3 Pilot - Comprehensive Reforms — “Targeted Social Assistance Integration” Work Program for Dachuan Pilot Area, Dachuan District, Sichuan Province
* Component 3 Pilot - Comprehensive Reforms on Social Assistance - “Simplifying Administration and Delegating Powers, Exercising Fair Supervision, and Improving Service Efficiency” —Pilot Venue Work Program of Xincheng District, Hohhot, Inner Mongolia
* Component 3 Pilot - Comprehensive Reforms on Massive Assistance - “Helping the Weak” Pilot Venue Work Program of Zhangjiagang City, Jiangsu Province

Activities involving Pilot sites were manifold. Conducted since March 2018, [Field visits](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/C1/PilotsC1/MissionsPilot%20Sites/) allowed the EUD, the project team, NDRC and consortium members to get better acquainted with the reality and expectations of concerned local authorities. Representatives of pilot regions were whenever feasible and appropriate invited to take part in activities organised in Beijing - in particular the [kick](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/#_3.1.8.0_The_2016) off meeting, workshops, training sessions, and panel discussions; an exchange session was organised in Hohhot Inner Mongolia autonomous region and Dachuan in Sichuan Province.

In September 2018 a joint technical mission to Hohhot fielded a team of 4 European experts to discuss social assistance benefits and services scheme including governance and non-public actors as social services providers.

(work in progress)

*3.1.8.7 Newsletters*

Component three starting from 2016 published quarterly bilingual Newsletter. Component 3 Newsletters were printed and mailed quarterly. Electronic version was dispatched to some 200 addressees in China and abroad. The Newsletters were also accessible from the project website.

[Component Three Newsletters](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/C1/C1Newsletters.html) (folder 4)

(work in progress)

*3.1.8.8 Publications*

While the products of Component Three activities were systematically posted on the [Project website](http://www.euchinasprp.eu/)  <https://www.euchinasprp.eu/en/components-en/component-3-en> whenever available in both English and Chinese languages, the Component team and its partners from MoCA still felt it important to physically publish and dispatch on a regular basis the results of their most important works. The Component notably published yearly volumes of its <research> topics Volumes https://www.euchinasprp.eu/en/components-en/component-3-en, which are a compilation of topical researches on social assistance system.

3.1. 9 National partners (ACWF/BWF, BASS, Renmin etc.)

Component 3 of the project entertained privileged relations with entities and individuals interested in project works, outside the circle of MoCA. The component has developed working relations with several international organizations based in Beijing, such as the the World Bank, the Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation FES, ADB, BWF. Visiting European Experts and the Resident Expert for Component 3 have taken part in a number of meetings organized by institutions outside the project where they contributed technical papers and made the project works under Component Three known by other interested circles.

(work in progress)

[Outside events with Component Three participation](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/C1/OUTSIDEEVENTSC1.pdf) file10

3.1.10 Memoranda of Understanding

Under its [Result R.](http://sprp-cn.eu/Memorabilia/Common/INTERVENTION%20LOGIC.pdf)1 related to MoCA capacity building in policy development, the project Component Three was notably to ensure that Memoranda of understanding or equivalent instruments (be) discussed and concluded between MoCA and European partners, to use as a basis for continued cooperation in social assistance. Under project activities, limited support was therefore provided to the negotiation of such instruments with Poland, Italy and Belgium, through facilitating high level high level (ministerial) bilateral contacts between MoCA and its institutional competent partners.

A MoU focusing on the social assistance legal framework was signed on 4th December 2018 between MoCA and the Polish Ministry for Family, Labour and Social Policy. 

(work in progress)