



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your participation to the prime movers' meeting of the China-Europa Forum in Paris last week. We hope you had a safe trip back home.

The meeting was a huge success. For most of the 80 workshops, Chinese and European prime movers, assistants, mediators and sometimes participants had a chance to put a face on the name of their counterpart, to exchange, to learn more about each other and to start working together in a very friendly, constructive and enthusiastic atmosphere. We, organizers, have very much appreciated your commitment and openness and are thankful for such a positive attitude. We will share the experience with the few workshops which couldn't have been represented last week and encourage them to join the dynamic.

There is no doubt that the Paris meeting, which wasn't even scheduled two months ago, will be regarded as a milestone in the history of our Forum. Together, we paved the way for the third biennials of July 2010 in China and for the work at distance which will take place between now and July 2010.

You will find attached the rough version of your outputs in three different files: the list of the major issues identified by each workshop, the list of the specific actions per workshop and the conceptual maps of your entire contributions at the Paris meeting, in Desmodo format ([http://bdf.china-europa-forum.net/cef/docs/compilation\\_paris.crtxml](http://bdf.china-europa-forum.net/cef/docs/compilation_paris.crtxml)). The Desmodo software can be downloaded for free at the following address [www.desmodo.net](http://www.desmodo.net). It could be a good opportunity for you to practice the exercise of synthesis per group.

The work done in the morning of July 23 helped us all understand the difficulty of the transition between the work done in each workshop and the preparation of a partial synthesis per group. It gave us precious information that will serve to improve the process between now and July 2010. The results of this session won't be posted on the website. You received a paper copy on July 24 and you will find attached the electronic version for your personal files.

We look forward to receiving very soon the common issue paper prepared by each workshop, conditioning the opening of your own welcome page on the website. The pages have been redesigned to be more attractive: you will soon receive instructions from our webmaster (see also the mock up version attached). As indicated during the presentation of July 23 pm, you will then be in charge to enrich your welcome page with information, documents, discussions, photos... If we are able to open most of the pages by the end of September it will be another major step in the collective animation of our Forum.

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During the summer break we will also finalize the QQ blog project presented to offer you an additional space of debate to confront the work achieved in the Forum with a public audience. Please confirm your interest for such an interactive tool.

We do not plan a publication of the overall results of the Paris meeting. The most valuable contribution will definitely be the implementation of your action plans. However in various groups the discussion has been extremely rich and the synthesis on SimpleGrille won't reflect the whole content. That is not their object. This is why we would encourage you to prepare, for your workshop, a more detailed report on your experience and exchanges and to post it on your workshop page.

The various examples presented during the meeting by prime movers freshly back from China, showed the diversity of format and organisation of each physical workshop. All initiatives are welcome as long as the specific "Forum format" 2-day workshop is preserved in the programme to allow the collective synthesis of the contributions in preparation of the plenary sessions. Field visits, organisation of larger conferences to value the presence of the European participants, practical training on real cases are various ways to enrich and reinforce the dialogue.

We would also like to emphasize the importance of building as soon as possible the "four pillars" of each workshop. Antoine Sauvagnargues who was introduced during the meeting is currently working as a trainee for the Forum at the Committee of the Regions of Europe in Brussels. He can help us identify existing cooperation between European regions and provinces or cities in China. Do not hesitate to contact him: [Antoine.sauvagnargues@cor.europa.eu](mailto:Antoine.sauvagnargues@cor.europa.eu).

During the meeting some workshops considered the opportunity of merging. Others decided to split. That is part of any evolving process and we accept these changes as long as they result from a mutual decision. The Forum has to be a "quality label" based on the common agreement to its Charter and to its methods and tools. A small number of new workshops will eventually be welcome on these bases provided that they have the financial means to operate.

Once again, thank you all. Beyond the mutual respect and the deep commitment to the dialogue you all showed and which was perceptible at each small table, the key point of the meeting has been the successful transition toward a collective animation of the Forum by the prime movers. It was essential and it has been achieved. Congratulations.

Yours truly,

Pierre Calame  
and the Forum Team

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