

Climate Change Public Awareness ,Education and Training

Experience from China

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The Asia and Pacific Regional workshop on Article 6 of
UNFCCC(13-15 sep.)

Backgrounds

- The global climate change has emerged as a challenge faced by every nation in the world, China, with its fragile ecological environment, is vulnerable to negative impact of climate change .
- Improving education, training and public awareness on climate change is an important measure for persuading the whole of society to jointly participate in activities for the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change.
- In recent years, China has strengthened the training and education on climate change with great efforts made in enhancing the public awareness of climate change and for promoting sustainable development.

Actions related to A6

- **Research on The National Strategy on Climate Change Awareness and Outreaching**
To defines goals and guidelines of education and outreaching in the field of climate change in China.
- **Training materials and training programs**
on the knowledge of climate change, policy information and skills of project development.
- **Research on public awareness promoting of specific topics(c5):**
- **Nationwide surveys on public awareness of climate change:**
twice by Research Centre for Public Policy of China Academy of Social Science (people's knowledge, recognition, means of information access, extent of concern and willingness to take actions)
- **Pilot projects on climate change awareness and outreaching:**
Since 2002, series of pilot projects facing various stakeholders have been carried out by governmental departments and NGOs through community campaigns, mass media and internet dissemination, school activities, conferences and workshops.


Actions has been taken to improve the CC awareness of decision makers at different levels

July 5 2002 **professor Ding Yihui** form CMA had been invited to give a lecture on *issues of Climate change* for the leaders of Chinese government .Pre-Prime Minister Mr.Zhu-Rongji and almost all of the cabinet ministers listened the lecture, including Mr. Wen Jiabao and Mr.Qian Qichen.

Apr. 27 2005 **academician Qin Dahe** had been invited to make a presentation on *climate change and sustainable development* at the Great Hall of People in Beijing , and more than 800 audience including high ranking leaders and researchers form different departments attend the lecture.

Before president Hu Jintao attended the **G8+5 Summit**, a lot material relating to climate Change has been prepared for him.





China is exploiting at every opportunity related with environment to popularize the training and education with regard to climate change

Many lectures have been held on the basic knowledge and reports on CC, and many domestic and international scientific conferences and seminars have been organized which are relating to CC.

- International symposium on climate change- climate change and sustainable development (CMA 2002 4)
- **World Meteorological Day**, a course of lectures and outreach actions targeting at different audiences had been carried out by CMA
- International School on Climate System and Climate Change (2004 &2005 CMA) (students in college)



Example of International Cooperation :

- Canada-China Cooperation in Climate Change (C5)(2002-2004) Project

“Canada-China Cooperation in Climate Change (C5)(2002-2004)” Project

(Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) approved funding for the C5 Project under the Canada Climate Change Development Fund (CCCDF).

Under the framework of C5, specific research on awareness and outreach has conducted:

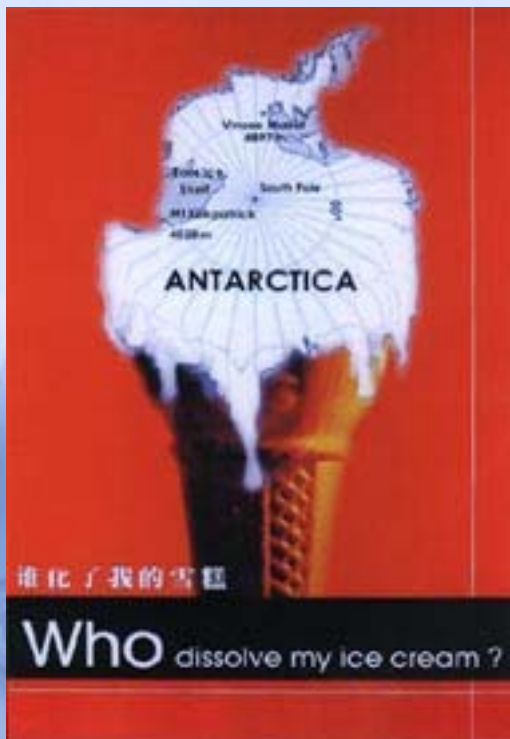
- climate change training materials June 2004.
- The Journalists’ Capacity Building Workshop
March 2004,



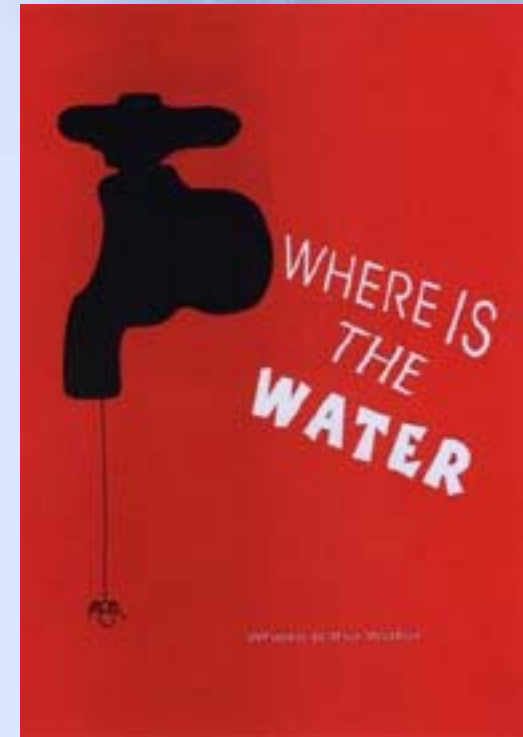
“Canada-China Cooperation in Climate Change (C5)(2002-2004)” Project

- The Youth Focused Campaign included different sub-activities like
 - China Youth Daily 28 articles,
 - Friends of Nature on Wheels,
a mobile environmental education program developed by a non-governmental organization, delivered climate change messages to school children
 - Climate Change Poster contest,
encouraged creative talents and targeted university students, publishing a collection of selected posters with three chosen to create an outdoor bus shelter advertisement
 - School Twinning Project,
One school in Guiyang and another in Vancouver were chosen to participate. Because of the dedication of the teachers and students from both schools, this activity was a great success. Students exchanged perspectives, stories and experiences related to local climate change issues and there was ongoing cultural exchange.

“Canada-China Cooperation in Climate Change (C5)(2002-2004)” Project



“Canada-China Cooperation in Climate Change (C5)(2002-2004)” Project



Advertisement persuading people to :

take public transfer ; buy electrical appliance with better energy performance; use energy saving lighting; shut off the computer after work.

Conclusion: **ADDRESS THE CLIMATE CHANGE , YOUR CHOICES ARE IMPORTANT !**



Success factors of the project:

- Open lines of communication, especially face-to-face interaction.
- Trust and respect that help build strong relationships.
- Flexibility in design and implementation to take advantage of opportunities as they arise.
- Committed and creative teams representing all partners.
- Service provided by the Local Project Manager was a key success factor.

One suggestion is that it might have been more streamlined if there had been Canadian Executing Agency for C5, instead of two.

National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management - Climate Change (GEF/ UNDP)

■ **Capacity assessment :**

- Decision makers from local governments, enterprises and the public still remains weak.
- Due to the constraints of budget, experience and capability of outreaching, the coverage and extent of educational activity on climate change is still limited.
- people's understanding of climate change is still at the fundamental stage and research on dissemination and countermeasures should be strengthened.
- no awareness and outreach strategy or plan on climate change existing in China, neither in the form of legislation nor regulatory document by the government.
- It is discovered from the survey that 'lack of awareness' is the most common problem reflected.

National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management - Climate Change (GEF/ UNDP)

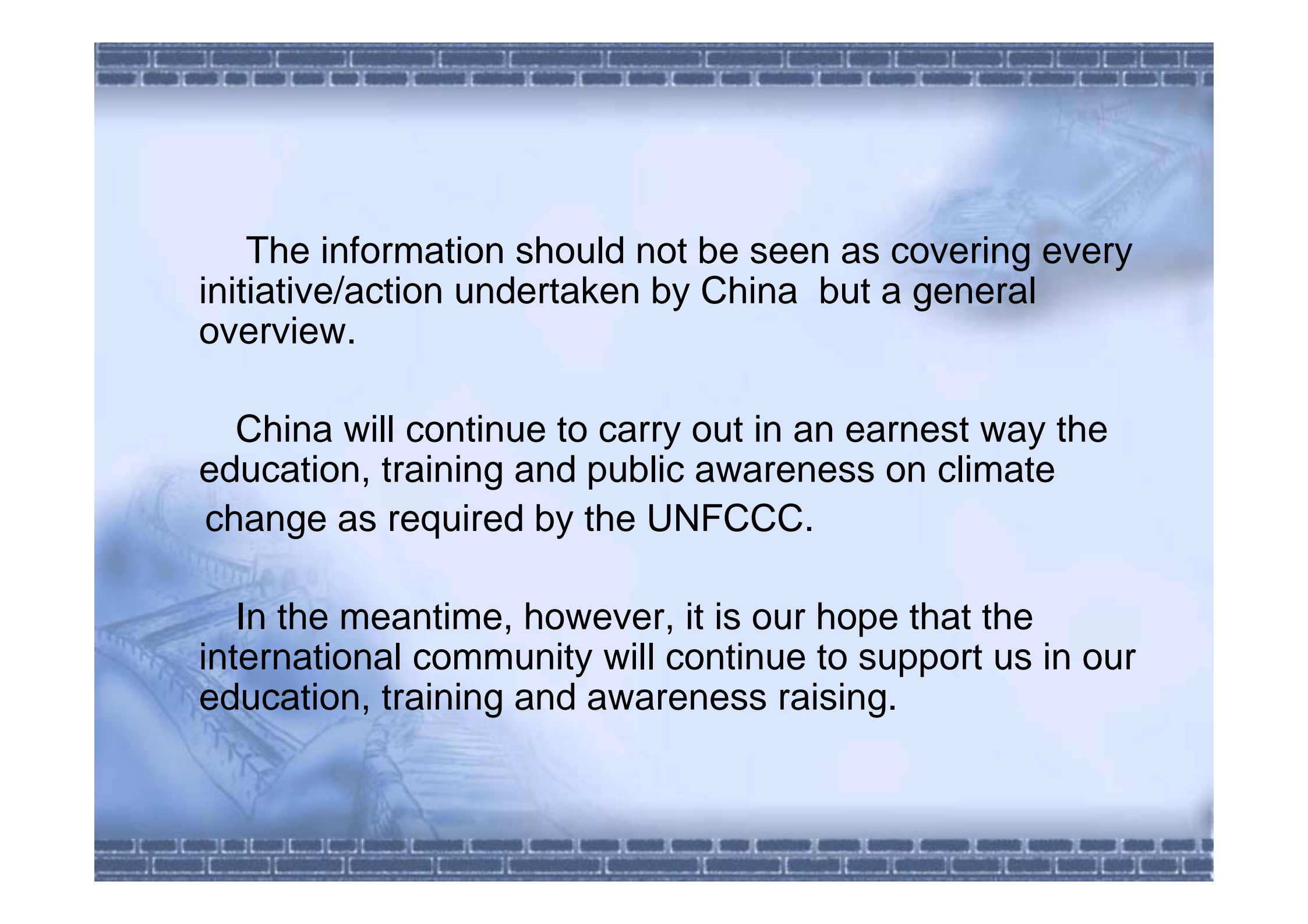
The difficulties and obstacles covering :

- Lack of regulative base
- Weak network system and unclear responsibility division among awareness and outreaching professional institutions for climate change
- Lack of human resources
- Lack of financial support and
- Weak international communication.

National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management - Climate Change (GEF/ UNDP)

priority goals include:

- Draw regulations, policies and mid and long-term plans
- Set up network system in compliance with international trends and foster expertise
- Conduct various educational and awareness-raising activities focusing on stakeholders with different backgrounds:
 - professional training directed at technician and management people in the area of climate change; integrating the topic into mainstream education system, i.e. primary and secondary schools, and university;
 - produce educational materials through media and publishing houses;
 - and training programs directed at decision makers and trainers.



The information should not be seen as covering every initiative/action undertaken by China but a general overview.

China will continue to carry out in an earnest way the education, training and public awareness on climate change as required by the UNFCCC.

In the meantime, however, it is our hope that the international community will continue to support us in our education, training and awareness raising.



Thank you !