



China study file
“Energy efficiency and urban development”
by the CCICED (CCN 3001)

<i>Aim:</i>	<i>draw up policy recommendations for the sustainable development of Chinese cities</i>
<i>Amount:</i>	<i>€300,000</i>
<i>Type of funding:</i>	<i>grant</i>
<i>Date of agreement:</i>	<i>June 2008</i>
<i>Progress:</i>	<i>completed</i>

Background: The massive and rapid urbanisation process underway in China (between 280 and 350 million new urban residents over the next 20 years) comes with big challenges attached in terms of its climate impact. The question of Chinese cities’ carbon footprint and potential for low-carbon growth is therefore acute.

Under the auspices of the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED), a Chinese think tank whose purpose is to make policy recommendations regarding the environment and development in cooperation with international experts, the AFD funded a task force whose research covered energy efficiency and urban development in Chinese cities. Co-chaired by Laurence Tubiana, director of the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI), and Professor Jiang Yi, director of Tsinghua University’s building research centre, this task force was composed of 12 members, six from Chinese organisations (China Academy of Transportation Science, Qinghua University) and six from French and international organisations (notably IDDRI and Enerdata).

Aims of the study: Support collaborative work between experts from a variety of fields and countries with the aim of producing political recommendations and a practical action plan for the Chinese government.

Participate in this way in work to produce public policy in China relating to a major factor in the fight against climate change.

Take part in spreading and raising awareness of this factor among public actors in Chinese cities.

Study content: The task force’s conclusions covered the ways in which urban residents consume energy and the measures to be taken in the sectors of construction, district heating, transport and urbanisation across Chinese cities. They have been included in the recommendations presented by the CCICED to the Chinese government in November 2009. The task force’s report was also passed on to the relevant ministers and to provincial governments.

The AFD has also translated and printed the report in English, French and Chinese in order to present and distribute it at several high-level events including the CCICED roundtable that was held in Shanghai on 25 and 26 March 2010 and a conference-debate open to the wider public in Paris on 25 November 2010.

Finance: A grant of EUR 300,000 was allocated over two years to fund the work of the task force’s international experts.

Main conclusions of the study: The task force's recommendations emphasise the systemic nature of the challenges related to energy and carbon, and their close link to lifestyle. Five recommendations were made with corresponding action proposals:

1. Establish a technical and economic framework for a strategy to monitor and control energy consumption in urban areas
2. Promote high-quality urbanisation in terms of city dimensions, density and urban morphology
3. Make mass public transport and non-motorised transport (NMT) a strategic national priority
4. Deepen institutional reform of heating networks and support the creation of innovative and experimental mechanisms in northern China
5. Promote “ecological lifestyles” and encourage the associated green technology

Post-study perspectives: In the wake of this study, IDDRI and the Energy Research Institute (ERI, attached to the NDRC) envisage a collaboration to carry out a study on the theme of “low carbon city”, applied to a pilot city in China. Other actors could also take part in this work, such as the French Environment and Energy Management Agency (ADEME), ENERDATA and French industrial enterprises.

The pilot experiences in sustainable urban development that are already underway or will get underway in China are also interesting for other geographical regions that face similar challenges and could therefore be shared with other developing countries.

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