

Ministry of Civil Affairs P.R.China, Nanjing University, EU-CHINA SPRP Component 3

Pilots on improving standards of social assistance benefits and services**Training session for the MoCA and local MoCA staff from four pilot sites:**

- Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, Hohhot City, Xincheng District
- Jilin Province, Da'an City (county level)
- Jiangsu Province, Zhangjiagang City (county level)
- Sichuan Province, Dazhou City, Dachuan District

September 25th, 2018**Training session****Ministry of Civil Affairs***Beijing Jade Garden Hotel*

Meeting has been moderated by Mr Mao Lipo, Deputy Division Director of Administration of Social Assistance Department, Ministry of Civil Affairs, P.R.China

1. Welcome speeches made by Mr Mao Lipo and Ms Marzena Breza

Ms. Breza opened the training session part of the meeting and underlined that during that session focus will be on 8 representatives from fourth pilot sites located in different provinces. All the pilot sites were putted on the map of China just to let European experts to have an idea of the location of four pilot sites which are located in: Da'an City in Jilin, Xicheng District of Hohhot in Inner Mongolia, Dachuan City in Sichuan, and Zhangjiagang in Jiangsu.

2. Topic Standards in social assistance benefits and services – legal framework, stakeholders, implementation, governance and administration mostly focusing on social services, presentation and comments by Ms Camille Lambinon, EU expert from France

Ms. Lambinon during the presentation pointed the importance of using databases and IT systems to strengthen social services and establishment of cooperative relations with NGOs to further enhance the efficiency of social services. In France in the past 20 years a lot of work has been done in database and IT system. There are several goals, the first one is to have reliable information about the recipients so in this way we can know what they are doing and what services we can provide to them. The second goal is to help social workers to get the information. Ms Lambinon gave a general overview of the situation of IT system service efficiency in Croatia. In Croatia they collect data through a computer system, so the data about the people who receives help is putted into the database, so the relevant government departments know their region, gender and their specific situation. Their goal is actually to improve social assistance, so the local department can also learn about the recipients. Therefore, Croatian social services need to collect more information to understand their situation so that they can provide social services to them in a targeted manner. Of course, some new indicators have also been set and entered into the database. The social assistance service will work with all the relevant parties to reduce poverty to determine who belongs to the poor and what the basic conditions of these people are. The second point is that collects this information to provide to social workers. Then social workers can understand the indicators related to this poverty and the index.

Ms Lambinon also pointed that on the platform in France best practices and some new project evaluations are shared. All stakeholders can share information on this platform so centers which conduct social activities can focus on this information. Of course, these information sharing is also subject to such strict restrictions on privacy protection. Then the following one is also announced by the French President, which means that all institutions

are slowly entering a system so then in the future the applicant does not need to personally apply for any assistance, but the new system can settle. It is also important to emphasize that it is from the EU's point of view that it is to respect privacy and respect personal data. The improvement of personal information on IT or database information is based on database law. In 2017 last year the EU introduced a new regulation that was used with all EU countries and passed and entered into force.

Then Ms Lambinon presented the issue of establishing partnerships between NGO and public institutions. There are actually many options when implementing social assistance projects. For example, there are local social assistance welfare agencies to carry out directly. Then there are more and more cooperative relationships, such as the central ministries and the partnership between NGO and the local government. However, it is necessary to standardize and formalize, so as to ensure the safety of all relevant parties and the efficiency of social assistance. Then the cooperation agreement should clearly explain the goal of the rescue, the scope of cooperation, the obligations of all parties and should follow up on the use of all funds in a timely manner, and sum up in a timely manner. No matter what work was done, the EU budget will be recorded and evaluated very accurately. Another important point is that the results of this assessment will be open to many people. These results will be putted online, so that citizens, civil society and public organizations, government agencies can understand these and the cost of funds putted into project. Therefore, the assessment is very important for project sustainability and the sustainability of official policies.

Finally Ms Lambinon pointed the importance of the communication, information sharing, information disseminating. Different tools, different channels have to be used to spread information, not only online, not only via Internet. There are always people who are not comfortable with the Internet, so they have no way to easily get information through the Internet. The purpose is to find the rights of different beneficiaries. In France's NGOs has done a lot of efforts, for example, to build a platform to collect some very friendly sites. The other is the communication between the agencies and the communication between the supervisors and the personnel. One of the most effective practices is that changes in new project policies and regulations must be made from a specific perspective when making decisions so that decisions can be legalized and everyone can be informed. Finally to manage databases is very important issue. China's database must be much larger than France or any other EU countries. All data should be matched in different IT systems.

3. Topic Standards in social assistance benefits and services – legal framework, stakeholders, implementation, governance and administration mostly focusing on cash benefits including minimum income scheme and benefits for most vulnerable groups, presentation and comments by Mr. Christian Moutier, EU expert from France

Mr. Moutier presented disabled adult benefit, universal income for working age and activity bonus.

First introduced disabled adult benefit (DAB) which is paid on behalf of the state. There are over 1mln beneficiaries in France. The basic condition is that the recipients must be at least 20 y.o. and less than 60 y.o. and who's the disability rate is at least 50%.

The rate of disability is determined by the Commission on the Rights and Autonomy of Disabled Persons. This commission is exist in all departments in France, in the county in the political structures in the regions with very strict rules and regulations, which are transparent for everyone. For the people who can work (because some of them even they are disabled they can work) the benefit is calculating each quartet according the taxable resources collected during the last three month. If the beneficiary of the full-rate is about benefit and disability rate is at least 80%, the beneficiary can benefit of additional resources which is about 180Eur per month. Several conditions are required, if they reach the retirement age (60 y.), not working, not having a job, not receiving professional income for at least the last year. There is a bonus which is given to people which are living independently and it is

automatically granted for those who receive the full-rate of benefit if the disability rate is at least 80% and the person has no job. This is always computed by IT system.

Then Mr. Moutier presented social income/the active solidarity income (RSA) which is guaranteed for the whole population. This one is paid on behalf of departments and there are around 2 mln beneficiaries in France. The first condition is that people must be under 25 y.o. stably living in France and have at least one child. The reason is that government thinks that before 25 y. push people not to seek for jobs and there is a big dispute about that in France in present time. The amount changing depend on the family configuration. This is mandatory professional and social support with the single social worker in principal that they takes care of one recipient. France nowadays facing problems to have people getting back to work. There is a contract between the local authorities and the recipient setting what the recipient should do in order to find the job, to get back to work, to recover his health or take care of his children. This is really a contract, and we check every 2-3 month if the contract is respected by the recipient and he gets benefit. E.g. the amount for single person is 550E which is almost the half of the minimum guaranteed wage.

This benefit is dedicated to the French or nationals of the EU, justified the right to stay in France and the person stay in France for at least for the 5 years. There is also another condition to be eligible RSA between the ages of 18 and 25 without children, the applicant must have been in a full-time occupation for at least two years in the last three years. The benefit is calculated on total amount of the applicants income and the household members. The amount of RSA is identical for three months, except in case of separation (in this case, the rights are recalculated). All recipients must follow social and professional insertion programs lead by social workers on behalf the Departmental Council. People are receiving benefit but they also get some services and support from social workers.

After that Mr. Moutier introduced the Activity Bonus. The activity bonus is designed for people over 18 y.o. living in France and exercising a salaried or independent professional activity. The gain is for French and nationals of the EU or Switzerland, same as for the solidarity income for the foreigners which live in France for at least 5 y. or hold a resident card. The amount is identical for 3 month, except in case of separation. In this case, the rights are recalculated. The Activity Bonus is calculated based on the total income of household members (including social benefits). The people who get more than 50% of the monthly minimum wage in force in France. It is to try to interest people at having a job and just maintain benefit. The AB is don't paid if the amount is less than 15 euro per month. The rate is slightly lower than the solidarity income.

Mr. Moutier also stated that since 2010 there is a plan in France to modernize the service to the user by multiplying the vectors of communication (telephone, caf.fr website, monenfant.fr website, reception by appointment, interactive terminals, emails, SMS, etc.). Some benefits are automatically paid to families, based on data available to the Family Allowances Fund (database). Cafs offer people appointments to study with them the rights they may have. Their entire situation is analyzed, like identity, family situation, work situation and income, housing, living environment and health conditions. Assistance is provided to help them fill out the forms and attach the necessary supporting documents. The right to family and social benefits is based on a declarative principle: citizens declare their situation and the Caf determines their right. In return for the declarative principle, the CAF has the right to check the reality of the declarations.

Mr. Moutier also pointed importance of the IT tools which makes applicants statements more reliable. The Common national reference system of social protection was created in 2007, it is intended to facilitate administrative procedures, reduce processing time, improve the quality of service rendered and reduce the risk of fraud. The system is shared by all social security and unemployment insurance organizations. Each organization puts into the system all the data they have for each person and the local governments can access it for social assistance.

4. Topic Standards in social assistance benefits and services – legal framework, stakeholders, implementation, governance and administration mostly focusing on the institutional coordination of complex system of benefits and services within social assistance scheme from a perspective of transition country, presentation and comments by Mr Pavel Janeček, EU expert, Head of International Cooperation Unit of Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of Czech Republic

Mr. Janecek presented the situation of social services from the experience of the transition country and underlined that the transition is not completed yet. Ms. Janecek pointed that before 2003 the social services were administered/managed mostly by District Offices but afterwards, many tasks were given to regions and municipalities. Then in 2006 the New Social Services Act was adopted. The basic principles of the new Act were that the social services should be as much as possible provided at home or at the community where the client lives, then assistance provided must preserve the dignity of its recipient, must be based on individual needs and must support ability of social inclusion and independence and the last that the quality must be warranted.

Mr. Janecek also mentioned the role of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs which is not only the issues of the regulation and methodology of social assistance and social services but also the distribution of the resources from the state budget, launches projects on social services development, piloting new methods, carries out the inspection, keeps the registry of social services providers, etc.

Then Mr. Janecek pointed Care Allowance benefit which is determined by the level of dependence on care provided by another person. Care Allowance benefit cooperates with the Czech Social Security Administration whose Medical Assessment Service is the only body that may provide health status assessments of the applicants.

Mr. Janecek stated the importance role of regions which are responsible for accessibility and availability of social services in their territory, they provide grants to social services providers, and they must prepare three-year plans of development of social services, they also register providers of social services.

Then Mr. Janecek also explained the role of municipalities which is guarantee the accessibility of information on possibilities of social services provision, cooperate with other municipalities, regions and providers to assist people and to mediate contact between people and social services providers, provide cooperation to the region during the preparation of a regional three-year plan of social services development.

Mr. Janecek said that social services providers also cooperate with municipalities and regions with regard to monitoring the situation and planning of the social services development. The conditions for all providers are the same regardless the character of the founder.

Mr. Janecek mentioned that Social Services Act aimed also at defining better the issues of social work and social workers. Capacities for social work are still lacking – there should be more social workers and their salaries are still quite low.

Discussion

Prof. Gang said that the presentation of EU experts is very informative and also a lot of new insights were provided which is a very good reference for policy making in China. Prof. Gang also asked how the budget between central and local government during the implementation of SA is balanced. Does central government or local government determine the qualification of who are qualified of SA? Secondly prof. Gang said that the standards of SA or benefits are critical issue which influences the sustainability of SA. Prof Gang also asked what kind of factors is considered in EU during making the trusting social benefits standards. During making a standard for social benefit does the CPI or minimum wage or average income of citizens is considered? What kind of factors is considered to determine the benefits level and does the process of determination for SA can assure that population could survive? How to assure the benefited employment? During the morning session was mentioned

that there is an inactivity trap or what is called in China is welfare trap; how to mobilize those recipients to go back to work?

Mr. Moutier stated that regarding the one who is qualifying the rights as for France all the social rights are decided at national level. All of them are referred to the law. That means that now once qualify specifically the right to the one, someone is entitled by the law to receive such benefit. If the beneficiary is applying for some local benefits something what was set up by regional government, then the rule are the same, it's not the right which given to someone, it's right which is set up to corresponding to some kind of the situation and depending whether someone fulfill the requirements then he/she have the right. And then if you fulfill the condition then someone have the right, none can say I don't give you this benefit in any reason, either you fulfill the condition or you don't.

About references to the regions there are two references, the one is about minimum income wages, the percentage which tell you which amount and there is another specific reference for the family benefits and every year there is a decision making by the government to increase that amount and then most of benefits unless the housing benefits refer to this base law e.g. family benefits is some percent of this reference, another one will be another percentage and so on, it means that every year instead of changing the amount change of its benefit which is amount of the basis and then it is recalculated on this basis.

Mr. Moutier said that concerning the inactivity trap they hardly avoid them in France and the e.g. solidarity income in France it doesn't work well, because most of the people who is entitled to receive are out of the employment, and it is hard to get them back to work. They are not qualified, most of them are not well educated, so it takes a lot of time to train them. It can takes years before they come back to work. So it's not really successful and on the other hand they who are qualified living out from universities or professional schools they may get this solidarity income for one year or 1.5 and then finally find a job. So the once who are in the trap and the one who are not qualified or not very well educated.

Mr Janecek pointed that in Czech Republic concerning the issue there is the same and the rules are clear, they are not deliberation between the authorities.

Mr. Janecek said that concerning to get social assistance by the central or local level, both are possible in Czech Republic, and there are advantages and disadvantage. The advantage of the central level is maybe that there is more streamline operation, the central level is more suitable for having the better assessments of the individual needs, and maybe to better connect the service of the benefits.

Then concerning the level of social assistance benefits there was reform made in 2006 where the amount was calculating of the basis of the consumption, after several years of the research made by the institute of the administration and in 2006 was automatic indexation..., it was removed in 2007 to control the expenditure so afterward there were some changes to do some recalculation. So there is a gap between the minimum wage and the benefit, it's also increase the motivation to find a job since the job is better paid.

Mr. Janecek said that concerning the inactivity traps it's not only about the motivation but possibility and ability of the family to work because there is someone who take care of child, etc. **Ms Lambinon** added that concerning the inactivity trap there is a plan for the next 4 years which will be run in France is that education or at least training should be made compulsory until 18y.o. for everyone. So that could be a way of increase the inactivity rate because the minimum income is not that much helping people to get back to employment, it's only 9 % of people who get minimum income find the job in the year.

5. Introduction from pilot sites by MoCA local staff

Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, Hohhot City, Xincheng District

Ms Wu Honglian first thanks MoCA and the EU experts for an opportunity to communicate. Then Ms. Wu briefly presented the situation of Xincheng district of Hohhot in Inner Mongolia. Ms Wu said that Xincheng District was assigned by MoCA as a pilot area in 2018 and five points of comprehensive social assistance reform has been identified during this few month periods.

Ms Wu has been pointed few aspects. First the fundamental procedures and implementation of standards of policies were started, involving 9 districts, 1 town and 8 sub-district offices in the district. In that case with the implementation of the same policy in all places in the district can be guaranteed. Second issue which was done is on the basis of the law enforcement document, the formulation of information-based workflow all office processes are paperless, so the daily work with every procedure can be done online. In that case the time is saved and the goal of informatization has been achieved. Third in 2004, MoCA introduced the content of government purchasing services. This top-level design is very good, but there is still a gap in the implementation of grass-roots. In 2018 Xincheng District was the first one to care about such reform in 9 districts of Hohhot in Inner Mongolia. Ms Wu said that government procurement covers not only services but also other areas. First this reform in the household income survey and in the future government procurement will be implemented in more areas. It is mainly to carry out family survey and other aspects have not kept up. This step is stepped forward and other aspects are being pushed forward step by step to let more diverse ways help those who need help. Fourth is to further improve the emergency assistance policies to enhance our assistance for emergency and reduce poverty. In Xincheng district there is the emergency assistance policies but the implementation is limited in many ways, e.g. many people are already suffering for poverty, but they are not really qualified according to the framework so that's why they are marginalized. That's why the features of Xincheng district is considered to improve emergency assistance policies so than more people be included in those framework. The fifth is that they integrated the two levels of approval procedures and this obligation is delegated to the local authorities at villages and townships. This is also under the central government instruction, because delegating the obligation is only the one side of the issue, the other is also to guarantee the capability of the villages and the townships to be handle the approval. By August this has been tested for two month and so far it was very smooth. Ms Wu pointed that similar pilots have been done in many places already and maybe the achievement are not so spectacular but reforms is based on the features of the Xincheng District situation.

Ms. Wu stated that EU experts will go tomorrow to Hohhot so then they can communicate with local staff and learn more about the details concerning the reform program.

Jilin Province, Da'an City (county level)

Mr. Zhou Weiduo pointed that after several rounds of investigation and guidance by the expert group in Da'an City and considering the actual situation of Da'an city there are five aspects of comprehensive reform of pilot program.

First is that to improve the regulations of SA in rural area the reforms have been done. First aim is to shift for the minimum living allowance for basic living allowance. They have a model which has been already designed and currently is being tested in pilot villages and townships. Statistics has been collected from the areas in terms of food, educational expenditure and also spendings on e.g. traffic, clothing, etc. The model is that food and clothing coverage 80% and housing and medical care 20% and there is also 5% for extra usage. Such a shift will help to care for not only the minimum living allowance but also for person development. In Da'an city the age, the gender, the tuition, the disability situation etc. has been considered to create or calculate a labor capability index to further calculate the support benefit they should get. This model also provides technical support to determine the benefit. Nearly the labor capability index has also been calculating e.g. there are 410 households and they are

in the framework to support according to the new model and be included and will receive the benefits. Actual situation of the households in high rocky system are already in place and has been proven that is very efficient.

There will also be the establishment of approval mechanism for municipality, villages and also townships. And so far the capacity on the county level and township level have been done, for instance number of staff at county level has been increased and the review and approval process have been streamlined. The time and also paper work have been reduced, 50% of the process have been cut in order to streamline of whole system.

Jiangsu Province, Zhangjiagang City (county level)

Ms. Hui Hong said that in Zhangjiagang SA have been taken as one of the key area of reform and she shared the progress of the pilot project problems which they have met. For the progress on one hand they have improved the institution framework and want to establish more comprehensive SA framework. In 2018 the recipients have been expanded and e.g. the Dibao recipients and also those who are in poverty district because of several diseases and also low income families who have the income less than twice minimum wage. They also have been announced and noticed a government opinion for improving the insurance of the system, e.g. better insurance scheme for major disease and to include more data on housing and healthcare. They also want to expand SA to more population so the migrant workers have also been included in SA system. Now the SA and commercial insurance for those who encounter emergencies or injuries have been offered. They also have established scoring system for migrant workers, so they can enjoy the benefits as a local citizens.

Second aspect of the reform is that for people who exit from Dibao but those who suffer some major diseases like cancer or leukemia or have a transplant of organs they give them a period during which they still could enjoy some healthcare assistance and benefits. Also another system with other stakeholders have been established and it's mainly targeted major diseases. Then on labor and human resources and social protection interference or early protection system for certain types of diseases have been established and for expenditure above the threshold. In this way poverty cost by diseases can be reduced and also over expenditure of major diseases in SA framework can be prevented.

Another issue which was done is that existing institutions have been integrated into one social assistance center and now applications and institutions resources could be determined by the center, and data is shared and managed by the center; e.g. the nutrition subsidy or assistance for a special diseases, and pension of special disease like uremia have special subsidies and also offered to them.

Thirdly improve the precision of SA information network have been improved and validated data information was shared Ms Hui underlined that since Zhangjiagang is in the coastal area they have learnt a lot from the experience of Shenzhen and Shanghai. Also social workers have already been played a very positive role and with the government initiative a lot of NGO's are joining the affords to provide the spiritual help to those vulnerable families. and e.g. consultancy or employment support now offered by this organizations and after the pilot was introduced.

Also some specials budget was allocated to run some special programs and this programs are going to be operated by social NGO's. Now six out of ten are already operated and another 36 projects will be launched in the future and those NGO's will be entrusted also to run those programs. Of course they will be evaluated by the third party evaluators, besides commercial insurance and also healthcare assistance and other types of assistance compliment the official or government on social assistance.

Ms Hui mentioned that as for the challenges there are two of them have encountered. The first is the capabilities of NGO's are not that strong and they don't have to many ways of joining in social assistance. Zhangjiagang has already long history of SA at grassroots level and NGO's from several years ago started to participated in parental activity in culture environmental protection activities. They were quite successful in those spheres, but for

assistance to vulnerable groups they still are not so capable or they don't have enough experiences to help vulnerable communities. NGO are very eager to join special programs but how to evaluate them. Normally they are evaluated for the number of the events or number of activities but what are the effectiveness of their activities. Ms Hui suggested to nurture or train more NGO's, but in that case they need the rights to evaluations system. Ms Hui stated that in Shanghai or Shenzhen NGOs are doing quite well, so it's good idea to learn from them really have to learn from this regions.

At the end Ms Hui pointed some existing problems and hopes that she can get some suggestions and also learn from European experience.

Ms Hui said that the urbanization is going very fast in the region so there is not so much difference between urban and rural area, but at the county level community level there are already designating staff providing and handling civil affairs service. But actually many of practitioners at the grassroots level are just college graduates and they don't have enough experience and they also have to do a lot of other work related to civil affairs and they don't understand very well national and regional policies. Another problem is that young people often quit since they find another better well paid job.

Sichuan Province, Dazhou City, Dachuan District

Ms Wu Tingting pointed that their social assistance system has some problems e.g. people which need help cannot find the source of help, the authorities with the obligations of providing assistance are not transparent enough, the applicants have to submit dozens of the document and go to several different offices to be qualified.

Dachuan City is following the steps and instruction of the central government to carry out very ambitious reform program. In Dachuan District some data analyzes have been made and they realized that there are over 90 000 poor households in the district, mostly because of the diseases, education, unemployment, natural disaster, etc. so for this households the information of social assistance policy was created/established and introduced. First the platform helps and it is also like a information verification sources. Application for more benefits is delegated to the community level and to village level, so the poor household had to provide only documents to social assistance window at community, village or township level for the workers at the grassroots level to classified household and process of the documents and the other procedures are all done online, so if the household or individuals qualify as recipients than benefit will be directly paid to their credit cards. The individuals with the platform can also have better understanding of the policy. They can slip a card at the equipment at the grassroots office and they can learn about their application process and they can also find the results of the application via the internet. There is also joint system so when the applicant submit the documents at the grassroots window the documents will directly go to the verification office, so even if the applicant is goes to one office for one time other departments will be also providing the benefit to the applicants. Behind this also to developed and optimized the information there are also e.g. brochures, website, wechat etc. and meetings to provide this kind of information. The platform is operated in very successful and effective way mostly because of 3 elements. First is that the district leader has very clear and specific structures of that work in this project. Second the internet was regulation commission at the district level. All links of the application carried on can be processed online. People can even learn about people responsibilities for the process of the people who verify the information. All processes can be monitored so the platform can be guaranteed in the discipline way. Thirdly is the monitoring of the budget, the civil affairs department receive the money from the national or local budget and every year have to submit the report especially of how many people have been received help to and how the money has been used. Before reporting that it has to be also compared - this data with the database so it's impossible for the stakeholders to use the money in other aspects.

Ms Wu also pointed some challenges existing in their daily work such as the difficulties with the establishment of the data system, also the data system is cover very low level of data like housing or vehicle registration and cover only the district not city or the country data so it's impossible to verify the data in a very specific, comprehensive

and exact way. Another big challenge is that there are not any scientific evaluations for efficiency of poverty reduction based on the big data and there are not indicators or the qualification standards for the households so it's not so easy to improve the process the applications. Ms. Wu also said that maybe social organization, social forces can be helpful in the process to improve the SA.

7. Open discussion

Ms Breza commented that there is the mapping of the services, kind of an application eligible to check what kind of services is close to my hometown, close to the place where beneficiaries are living and this kind of mapping is very much popular in the EU countries. The key aspect was given to the NGO's, their role in terms of providing the information as well as the role of services delivery. The evaluation of the SA program is a key aspect of discussing the efficiency of the system and the overall social policy.

8. Summary

Mr. Mao said that the SA in China and EU have a lot of similarities, as IT is a common problem. Mr. Mao mentioned that China is building information sharing platform, where all data will be integrated and shared; streamlined approval process that allow applicants of benefits be identified and help whether they are qualified with the help of IT system. Mr. Mao said applicants need to submit their information only once when the platform is built; they information system can process the information when the applicants apply for benefits. Mr. Mao mentioned that Dibao system is already set up nationally. Mr. Mao said data is collected and then the evaluation of SA. Mr. Mao unlined that central government has evaluated 32 provinces and municipalities, therefore the evaluation will determine how much financial or budget they will receive in the next cycle of SA. Mr. Mao emphasized that assistance of disabled and senior citizens is being considered, which are bit low. Mr. Mao said with the pilot project being in study progress, it is in consideration that the economic social environment and the commitment of local and political leaders and 4 pilot cities are distributed in different part of the country. Mr. Mao said that colleagues from pilot cities make progress, in which the discussions and exchanges are very productive. Mr. Mao compared China's and EU's policies and noticed that EU policies are direct and specific, whereas the standards of China's policies are narrow; therefore, much need to be learned. Mr. Mao hopes that in the next stage it is possible to learn more intensively how to improve SA framework in China.

Ms. Breza said after China has started institutional backup for collecting data, the last stage should be combining them or crossing the data from different provinces, so the activity has already started. Ms. Breza said the standards should come 'from Beijing'. Ms. Breza mentioned that there was no change to meet them separately, but for the mission to IM will have one official joining from MoCA.

Ms. Breza sums up the discussion from the European perspective and point out possibility to influence daily work and the activities between the SA should be based on a solid law, that was also stressed by Director Liu. Ms. Breza said China will have comprehensive law in the next years. Ms. Breza noticed from Zhangjiagang city that there was a step forward, which was mentioned in special opinion how to implement the social assistance, which people are vulnerable one. Ms. Breza said that different cities and different provinces are in progress, but when Eu experts said it is based on national level law, which is strict and precise in terms of eligibility and accessibility to the SA, SS providers and role of the regional SA offices etc. Ms. Breza pointed out that there is a scope for discussion in China about the generosity of the system, after the French experience. Ms. Breza noticed that Dibao in Beijing is around 1000RMB, and in other regions and provinces is much lower, except Shanghai, which is slightly higher than Beijing. Ms. Breza stressed that among developed countries' generosity is much higher like looking from French experience and statistics. Ms. Breza emphasized that it seems not feasible for China to reach the level of 70% or 80% minimum wage like France within the next 2-3 years. E.g. Dibao in Beijing is 1000 RMB

and the minimum wage is several thousand RMB. Ms. Breza suggests that there is scope for improvement in generosity of the system, especially in case of Dibaos. Ms. Breza continued with third level of discussion, which are social workers. Ms. Breza pointed out the need for further improvements as in academic basis for social workers, however there is need for method and instruments for encouraging the people to stay in social assistance staff group. Ms. Breza said that there is the high mobility of social assistance staff in China, as for finding better jobs i.e. better pay, which lead them to leave the system. Ms. Breza mentioned the hard job of social workers and rather low pay still exist in Poland, however using examples from western European countries, experienced social workers stay in the position of the job for years. Ms. Breza pointed out the necessity to focus on database and on evaluation of SA system in China, and afterwards on reducing, preventing fraud in the system. Ms. Breza said she is looking forward for the focus given by Zhangjiagang City on the migrant workers, and the equal treatment as citizens in terms of SA support. Ms. Breza thanks for the attendees of the training session.

Drafted by Iwona Rogacka-Hu, C3 Assistant, October 29th, 2018

Annex:

1. EU-CHINA SPRP Component 3 Training session for the MoCA and local MoCA staff from four pilot sites Agenda
2. EU-CHINA SPRP Component 3 Training session for the MoCA and local MoCA staff from four pilot sites Participants List (EU+CN)



Annex: 1

Ministry of Civil Affairs P.R.China, Nanjing University, EU-CHINA SPRP Component 3

Pilots on improving standards of social assistance benefits and services

Training session for the MoCA and local MoCA staff from four pilot sites:

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- Jilin Province, Da'an City (county level)
- Jiangsu Province, Zhangjiagang City (county level)
- Sichuan Province, Dazhou City, Dachuan District

Agenda

September 25th, 2018

13:30-16:00

Venue: Jade Garden Hotel

(No.1 Nanheyuan Main Street, Dongcheng District)

Host: Ministry of Civil Affairs (MoCA)

Simultaneous interpretation from/to English & Chinese will be provided

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| 13:30—13:40 | Welcome speech Mr Mao Lipo, Deputy Division Director of Administration, Department of Social Assistance, MoCA |
| 13:40—13:50 | Ms Marzena Breza, PhD, C3 EU Resident Expert - introduction |
| Standards in social assistance benefits and services - legal framework, stakeholders, implementation, governance and administration – EU practices | |
| 13:50—14:10 | <u>Focus on social services</u> EU expertise sharing and Comments: Ms Camille Lambinon - France |
| 14:10—14:30 | <u>Focus on cash benefits including minimum income scheme and benefits for most vulnerable groups</u> EU expertise sharing and Comments: Mr. Christian Moutier - France |
| 14:30—14:50 | <u>Focus on the institutional coordination of complex system of benefits and services within social assistance scheme from a perspective of transition country</u> EU expertise sharing and Comments: Mr. Pavel Janeček - Czech Republic |
| 14:50—15:20 | Introduction from pilot sites by MoCA local staff |
| 15:20—15:50 | Free discussion* |
| 15:50 – 16:00 | Summary & Follow up 1. Mr Mao Lipo, Deputy Division Director of Administration, Department of Social Assistance, MoCA |

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| | 2. Ms Marzena Breza, PhD, C3 EU RE |
| 16:00 | <i>End of the meeting</i> |

**with the participation of the Chinese external experts and local MoCA staff*



EU-CHINA

Social Protection Reform Project
中国-欧盟社会保障改革项目

Annex: 2

**Participants List (EU+CN)
EU-CHINA SPRP Component 3
Pilots on improving standards of social assistance benefits and services
Training session for the MoCA and local MoCA staff from four pilot sites**

参会名单（欧盟）
中国—欧盟社会保障改革项目第三部分第四次研讨会

September 25th, 2018

13:30-16:00

**Venue: Jade Garden Hotel
(No.1 Nanheyuan Main Street, Dongcheng District, Beijing)**

2018年9月25日 13:30-16:00

(地点：北京翠明庄宾馆, 东城区, 南河沿大街1号)

| No 序号 | Name of the participants 姓名 | Institution/organization 机构/组织 |
|----------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. | Christian Moutier 克里斯汀·穆提尔 | EU-CHINA SPRP EU expert 中国—欧盟社会保障改革项目第三部分欧方专家 |
| 2. | Camille Lambinon 卡米乐·兰碧农 | EU-CHINA SPRP EU expert 中国—欧盟社会保障改革项目第三部分欧方专家 |
| 3. | Pavel Janecek 帕威尔·雅奈齐格 | EU-CHINA SPRP EU expert 中国—欧盟社会保障改革项目第三部分欧方专家 |
| 4. | Gang Shuge 江树革 | EU-CHINA SPRP CN expert 中国—欧盟社会保障改革项目第三部分中方专家 |
| 5. | Ms Marzena Breza 马哲娜 布雷扎 | EU Resident Expert Component 3, EU-CHINA SPRP 中国—欧盟社会保障改革项目第三部分欧方常驻专家 |
| 6. | Ms Iwona Rogacka-Hu 伊沃娜·罗嘎茨卡-胡 | Assistant to Component 3, EU-CHINA SPRP 中国—欧盟社会保障改革项目第三部分助理 |

| No 序号 | Name of the participants 姓名 | Institution/organization 机构/组织 |
|----------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. | Mr Mao Lipo 毛立坡 | Deputy Division Director of Administration, Department of Social Assistance, Ministry of Civil Affairs, P.R.China 民政部社会救助司综合处副处长 |

| | | |
|-----|--------------------------|---|
| 2. | Ms Zhang Jingjing 张晶婧 | Deputy Division Director of Administration, Department of Social Assistance, Ministry of Civil Affairs, P.R.China 民政部社会救助司综合处副处长 |
| 3. | Mr Liu Yong 刘勇 | Deputy Division Director of the Relief and Support for People Living in Dire Poverty and Temporary Assistance, Department of Social Assistance, Ministry of Civil Affairs, P.R.China 特困供养和临时救助处副处长 |
| 4. | Ms Xue Qiuji 薛秋霁 | Officer, Center of Monitoring and Verification for Low Income Families, Ministry of Civil Affairs, P.R.China 民政部低收入家庭认定指导中心干部 |
| 5. | Ms Yang Lan 杨兰 | Officer, Center of Monitoring and Verification for Low Income Families, Ministry of Civil Affairs, P.R.China 民政部低收入家庭认定指导中心干部 |
| 6. | Ms Xi Yabei 席雅宇 | Officer, Center of Monitoring and Verification for Low Income Families, Ministry of Civil Affairs, P.R.China 民政部低收入家庭认定指导中心干部 |
| 7. | Ms Liu Ke 刘珂 | Officer, Center of Monitoring and Verification for Low Income Families, Ministry of Civil Affairs, P.R.China 民政部低收入家庭认定指导中心干部 |
| 8. | Ms Wu Honglian 吴红莲 | Director of Xin Cheng District Civil Affairs Bureau in Hohhot, Inner Mongolia 内蒙古呼和浩特市新城区民政局局长 |
| 9. | Ms Hu Yan 胡燕 | Director of the Dibao Office of Xin Cheng District Civil Affairs Bureau in Hohhot, Inner Mongolia 内蒙古呼和浩特市新城区民政局低保办主任 |
| 10. | Mr Zhou Duowei 周为多 | Director of the Social Assistance Center in Da 'an, Jilin Province 吉林省大安市社会救助事业中心主任 |
| 11. | Mr Gao Haitao 高海涛 | Officer, Social Assistance Center in Da 'an, Jilin Province 吉林省大安市社会救助事业中心科员 |
| 12. | Ms Hui Hong 惠红 | Deputy director of Cival Affairs Bureau of Zhangjiagang City, Jiangsu Province 江苏省张家港市民政局副局长 |
| 13. | Ms Zhu Luzhen 朱路珍 | Deputy chief of the department of social assistance, Cival Affairs Bureau of Zhangjiagang City, Jiangsu Province 江苏省张家港市民政局社会救助科副科长 |
| 14. | Ms Wu Tingting 吴婷婷 | Director, Center for the Benefit of the people in Dachuan District, Dazhou City, Sichuan Province 四川省达州市达川区惠民帮扶中心主任 |
| 15. | Mr Luojie 罗杰 | Director of Social Affairs Office of Heshi Town, Dachuan District, Dazhou City, Sichuan Province 四川省达州市达川区河市镇社会事务办主任 |



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