

Aide-Mémoire



Social Protection Reform Project
中国-欧盟社会保护改革项目

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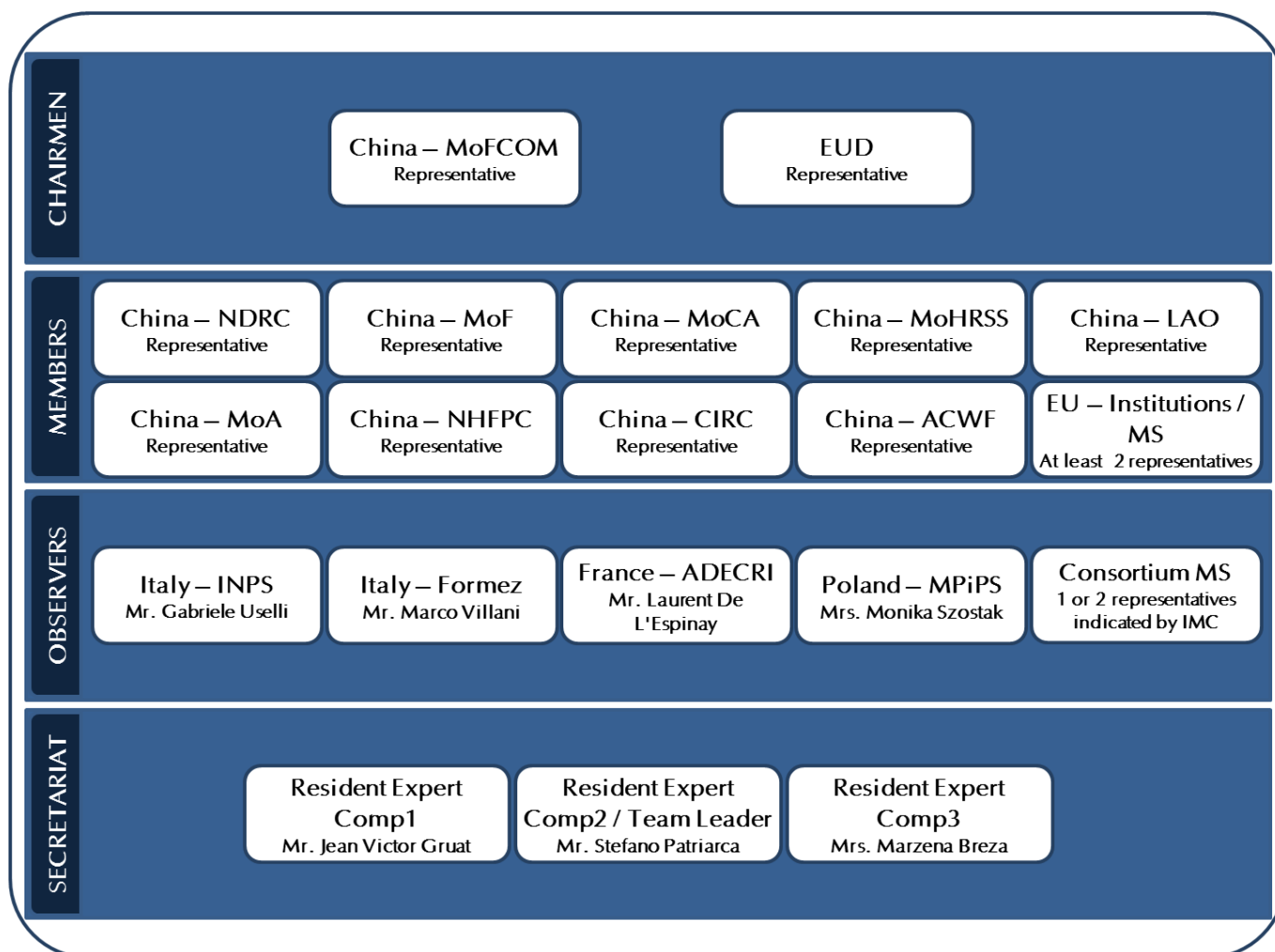
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1. Organizational Structure of the Project Advisory Committee

In order to achieve the overall project objectives and to facilitate the coordination of the different components of the project, a functioning inter-component consultation mechanism will be put in place. Accordingly, the overall supervision and support on project implementation and the coordination among key Chinese stakeholders of the three project components, are ensured by a Project Advisory Committee (PAC).

Please find below the guidelines, included in the Grant Application Form, in order to define a correct structure of the PAC:

- The PAC will be chaired by a representative of the MoFCOM (Ministry of Commerce) of the People's Republic of China and of the EU Delegation.
- Members of the PAC include at least one representative of each Chinese partner institution, representatives of other relevant Chinese Government agencies as well as at least two representatives of the EU institutions and/or EU Member States outside the Consortium.
- The representatives of the implementing Consortium will be invited to participate as observers.
- The team of EU Resident experts and Team Leader, skilled on technical aspects of the main themes of the project, will attend the PAC meeting and act as Secretariat.



This PAC Organizational Structure has to be confirmed and finalized with possible contribution from the European Delegation and Chinese Beneficiaries.

As Chairman:

- **China – Ministry of Commerce, Representative;**
- **European Delegation, Representative;**

As Members:

- **China – National Development and Reform Commission, Representative ;**
- **China – Ministry of Finance, Representative;**
- **China – Ministry of Civil Affairs, Representative;**
- **China – Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, Representative;**
- **China – Ministry of Agriculture, Representative;**
- **China – National Health and Family Planning Commission, Representative;**
- **China – Chinese Insurance Regulatory Commission, Representative;**
- **China – All-China Women's Federation, Representative;**
- **China – Legislative Affairs Office of the State Council, Representative;**
- **European – Institutions / Member States, At least 2 representatives.**

As Observers:

- **Mr. Gabriele Uselli, INPS - Head of the Central Department for the Individual Account - Project Leader;**
- **Mr. Marco Villani, Formez - Chief Operating Officer - Project Secretariat and Component 2 Coordinator;**
- **Mr. Laurent de l'Espinay, ADECRI - Project Manager - Component 1 Coordinator;**
- **Mrs. Monika Szostak, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy - Director of International Co-operation Department - Component 3 Coordinator.**

As Secretariat:

- **Mr. Jean Victor Gruat - Resident Expert Comp 1;**
- **Mr. Stefano Patriarca - Resident Expert Comp 2/ Team Leader;**
- **Mrs. Marzena Breza - Resident Expert Comp 3.**

During the first PAC meeting will be present as observers from the Consortium, also:

- **Mrs. Lucia Ortiz, Ministry of Employment and Social Security, Deputy Director of International Social and Labour Relations;**
- **Mr. Agustín Fernández, Foundation International and Iberoamerican for Administration and Public Policies, Head of Unit of Public Administration and Social Affairs.**

2. Yearly work schedule

2.1. Overall

The overall scope of the SPRP project is to further develop social equity and inclusiveness of economic development throughout Chinese society. To better describe the specific objectives both problems/needs and cross cutting issues have been analyzed in order to define the three different Components of the SPRP project. For each Component specific Chinese government entities have also been identified. The latter would play the role of partner of the consortium. The three Components are the following:

Component 1	Consolidation of institutional capacity for social protection policy development and reforms in collaboration with the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC).
Component 2	Enhancing the institutional capacity for financial management and supervision concerning social security funds in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance (MoF).
Component 3	Improving the legal framework and policy for social assistance in collaboration with the Ministry of Civil Affairs (MoCA).

The activities of the project are performed by a Consortium of European States so organized (European Member State / Institution / Representative):

- Italy / National Social Insurance Agency / Mr. Gabriele Uselli
- Italy / Formez PA / Mr. Marco Villani
- Italy / National School of Administration / Mr. Renzo Turatto
- France / Agency for the Development and Coordination of International Relations / Mr. Laurent De L'Espinay
- Belgium / Federal Public Services Social Security / Mr. Didier Verbeke
- Poland / Ministry of Labor and Social Policy / Ms. Agata Tomasiak
- Spain / Ministry of Employment and Social Security / Ms. Lucia Ortiz
- Spain / Foundation International and Iberoamerican for Administration and Public Policies / Mr. Agustín Fernández
- Czech Republic / Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs / Mr. Pavel Janecek
- Romania / Ministry of Labor, Family, Social Protection and Elderly / Ms. Olivia Rosandu

Starting from the three Components, described above, several Expected Results for the SPRP project have been identified. The first Expected Result is generally broad and on the other hand, the other 10 are strictly connected to each specific Component.

The tables below summarize the results identified for each component and the topics proposed for consideration when pursuing each result. It is important to underline that these topics have been modified in relation to the first version shared in the Grant application form, in order to adapt them to what was required by the Chinese Beneficiaries.

Moreover, in addition to the specific project results, it has to be considered that EU-China Social Protection Reform Project is part of a Bigger Context of Cooperation and Partnership that has been set up between Europe and China. For this reason this project also represents a great opportunity to:

- Establish a Mechanism for EU-China High Level Dialogue on other significant matters at a more global level.
- Create several partnerships between Specialized Public Bodies of EU Member States and the Chinese Government Agencies.

This project has a strong potential in paving the way for performing better in the future and establishing dialogue and cooperation between all the stakeholders.

Horizontal	
R1	The mechanism for EU-China high level policy dialogue on social protection reform is established and partnerships with the Specialized Public Bodies of EU Member States and the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), the Ministry of Finance (MoF) and the Ministry of Civil Affairs (MoCA) on social protection have been set up and they are active.
Component 1	
R2	Under the leadership of the NDRC, coordination of policy making among government agencies in areas related to social protection reform is strengthened.
R3	The capacity of the NDRC in policy development and implementation, notably establishing and enforcing a national policy evaluation technique in the area of social protection, is enhanced.
R4	National policy framework for a full coverage of old-age insurance system throughout China is consolidated by strengthening the interface of various schemes, pension funding pooling, old-age insurance scheme for civil servants/the employee of public agencies and the existing multi-layer pension system.
R5	Reform efforts in response to urbanization trends, in particular the harmonization and integration of the various basic social protection systems for different groups of beneficiaries, the portability of social insurances and better suited assistance schemes.
Component 2	
R6	The capacity of MoF financial management and supervision of central and local model of social security system and the extension of social security system coverage are enhanced, in particular in the fields of division of expenditure responsibilities, mid -terms budgeting of fund, and performance assessment model.
R7	Enhance the top level design ability in the basic pension insurance; establish actuarial analysis models for basic pension insurance reform.
R8	The capacity of the MoF in the management of social insurance funds, focusing on fiscal support budgeting, account system, investment techniques and adjustment mechanisms for pension benefits is strengthened.

Component 3	
R9	The capacity of the MoCA for promulgating and enforcing the Social Assistance Law and the regulations on rural and urban minimum standards of living are strengthened; the skills of local officials in policy transmission and implementation are upgraded.
R10	The legal frameworks on a) formulation of unified standards for the estimation and calculation of social assistance benefits, b) recognition of social assistance target groups and c) identification of low-income families are consolidated.
R11	Efforts of the MoCA in improved care for poor rural people and disabled people are strengthened, and public information and transparency of social assistance policies are raised at provincial level.

Topic Table

Component 1		
Result	#	Topic
R2	1.1.1	Social insurance administration systems reform (Contributing to the elaboration of the XIIIth National Five-Year Plan 2016-2020)
	1.1.2	Coordination of policy making among government agencies in areas related to social protection reform
R3	1.2.1	Relationship of pension benefit with minimum social wage
	1.2.2	National policy evaluation technique in the area of social protection (indicators, methods and programs)
R4	1.3.1	Pension reform for public sectors
	1.3.2	Social pooling of the basic pension component (Evaluation of the combination of social pooling and individual accounts techniques in pension schemes for employees)
	1.3.3	Universal social pension models
	1.3.4	Multi-tiered design of pension systems (public pension, enterprise annuity and individual pension)
	1.3.5	Occupational pension plans for public sectors and private pension plans
	1.3.6	Vesting, indexation and adjustment mechanisms of pension benefit
	1.3.7	Ageing population and possible strategy of dealing with this situation
	1.3.8	Issue related to the informal sector integration in social security schemes
	1.3.9	NDC (notional defined contribution) pension reform
R5	1.4.1	Improvement of the individual account component in public pension system for urban workers
	1.4.2	Relationship between social-economic development and the redistribution function of social security

	1.4.3	Strategy of integrating social security system in urban and rural context also through the portability of social insurances
Component 2		
Result	#	Topic
R6	2.1.1	Division of decision power and expenditure responsibilities on social security between central and local government
	2.1.2	Social security coverage on informal employment: methodologies and tools of analysis and management
	2.1.3	Fiscal policies in support to social security, leverage among different financial sources and efficiency of fund use
	2.1.4	Mid-term budgeting of social security
	2.1.5	Models for evaluating effects of social security policy implementation
R7	2.2.1	Nominal personal account reform in the basic pension insurance system
	2.2.2	Models and Methodologies for the Social and Economic sustainability analysis in social protection system
	2.2.3	Methodologies and Actuarial Models for pension insurance
R8	2.3.1	Budgeting of social security expenditures and fund management
	2.3.2	Investment strategies of social funds and risk control methodologies
	2.3.3	Management of basic Pension Fund
Component 3		
Result	#	Topic
R9	3.1.1	Legal framework on Social Assistance
	3.1.2	Governance framework for Social Assistance administration and management process
	3.1.3	Processes and activities of policy transmission and implementation carried out at central and local level of Social Assistance
	3.1.4	Monitoring and evaluation of Social Assistance schemes
R10	3.2.1	Experiences on unified standards for calculation of Social Assistance benefits

	3.2.2	Identification of Social Assistance target groups
	3.2.3	Overlapping and “cliff” effect management and policy framework
	3.2.4	Procedures and methods for requirement verification within Social Assistance system at central, local, urban and rural level
	3.3.1	Social Assistance specific groups - services for children, elderly, people with disabilities, with a special focus on poor rural people
	3.3.2	Social Assistance services for poor people and families – service delivery approach
	3.3.3	Communication techniques and channels of public information on Social Assistance policy

Legend	
	Activity to be done within April 2015
	Activity to be done within July 2015

From the beginning of the project four months of work have already been carried out in Europe and, starting from February, the Resident Experts and the Team Leader have been in Beijing in order to share all the main aspects of the project.

The valuable work that has been done has allowed us to refine the provisions in the Grant Application Form in order to make it more suitable to the needs of the Chinese Beneficiaries to whom this project is dedicated. This work of refinement has made possible that some assumptions inside the Grant Application Form have been revised and that they will be better underlined in the following paragraphs:

- Annual instead of six-months work plans,
- Six-months instead of quarterly Component reports,
- Revision of Logical framework.

All the activities planned for the first months of the project have been completed.

This work methodology, with the participation of qualified and high level representatives in Beijing in direct contact with the Chinese Beneficiaries, the remote support provided by all the Consortium Members and the constant communication between all the people involved, represents the key of success of this project and will last for its entire duration.

As it is clear from the following work plans, the considered project approach, the consistency of the activities and the collaboration between all the people involved ensure that this project is actually homogeneous and organic, and not just an agglomeration of different parts.

Finally, it is important to underline the flexibility demonstrated by the Resident Experts, the Team Leader and all the Consortium as a whole to accept all the requests made by the Chinese Beneficiaries and the EUD, always in accordance with the Grant Application Form and the project guidelines.

In the following table it is showed the Overall Gantt of the project:

ID	DESCRIPTION	Y 1												Y 2												Y 3												Y 4											
		S 1						S 2						S 1						S 2						S 1						S 2																	
		M1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12	M 13	M 14	M 15	M 16	M 17	M 18	M 19	M 20	M 21	M 22	M 23	M 24	M 25	M 26	M 27	M 28	M 29	M 30	M 31	M 32	M 33	M 34	M 35	M 36	M 37	M 38	M 39	M 40	M 41	M 42	M 43	M 44	M 45	M 46		
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1	Component 1 - Strenthening institutional capacity for for social protection policy development and reforms																																																
1.1	Result 2: Under the leadership of NDRC, coordination of policy making among government agencies in areas related to social protection reform is strengthened																																																
1.1.1	Social insurance administration systems reform - Contribution to XIIIth 5-Year Plan							PD					WS																																				
1.1.2	Coordination of policy making among government agencies in areas related to social protection reform																																																
1.2	Result 3: Capacity of NDRC in policy development and implementation, notably establishing and enforcing a national policy evaluation technique in the area of social protection, is enhanced																																																
1.2.1	Relationship of pension benefit with minimum social wage																																																
1.2.2	National policy evaluation technique in the area of social protection (indicators, methods and proograms)																																																

ID	DESCRIPTION	Y 1																Y 2																Y 3																Y 4															
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1.3	Result 4: National policy framework for a full coverage of old-age insurance system throughout China is consolidated by strengthening the interface of various schemes, pension funding pooling, old-age insurance scheme for civil servants/the employee of public agencies and the existing multi-layer pension system																																																																
1.3.1	Pension reform for public sectors												PD	WS																																																			
1.3.2	Social pooling of the basic pension component - Evaluation of the combination of basic pension & individual accounts									PD				WS																																																			
1.3.3	Universal social pension models																																																																
1.3.4	Multi-tiered design of pension systems (public pension, enterprise annuity and individual pension)								T	PD				WS																																																			
1.3.5	Occupational pension plans for public sectors and private pension plans																																																																
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1.3.8	Issue related to the informal sector integration in social security schemes																																																																
1.3.9	NDC (notional defined contribution) pension reform																																																																
1.4	Result 5: Reform efforts in response to urbanization trends, in particular the harmonization/integration of the various basic social protection systems for different groups of beneficiary, the portability of social insurances and better suited assistance schemes																																																																
1.4.1	Improvement of the individual account component in public pension system for urban workers																																																																
1.4.2	Relationship between social-economic development and the redistribution function of social security																																																																
1.4.3	Strategy of integrating social security system in urban and rural context also through the portability of social insurances										S	C	PD	WS																																																			

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2	Component 2 - Enhance institutional capacity for financial management and supervision concerning social secuty funds																																																	
2.1	Result 6: The capacity of MoF financial management and supervision of central and local model of social security system and the extension of social security system coverage are enhanced, in particular in the fields of division of expenditure responsibilities, mid-terms budgeting of fund, and performance assessment model.																																																	
2.1.1	Division of decision power and expenditure responsibilities on social security between central and local government							PD					WS																																					
2.1.2	Social security coverage on informal employment: methodologies and tools of analysis and management											PD	WS																																					
2.1.3	Fiscal policies in support to social security, leverage among different financial sources and efficiency of fund use																																																	
2.1.4	Mid-term budgeting of social security																																																	
2.1.5	Models for evaluating effects of social security policy implementation																																																	
2.2	Result 7: Enhance the top level design ability in the basic pension insurance; establish actuarial analysis models for basic pension insurance reform.																																																	
2.2.1	Nominal personal account reform in the basic pension insurance system							PD					WS																																					
2.2.2	Models and Methodologies for the Social and Economic sustainability analysis in social protection system											PD	WS																																					
2.2.3	Methodologies and Actuarial Models for pension insurance																																																	







COMPONENT 2 2015 ACTIVITIES PLAN - GANTT																																																		
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2	Component 2 - Enhance institutional capacity for financial management and supervision concerning social security funds																																																	
2.3	Result 8: The capacity of the MoF in the management of social insurance funds, focusing on fiscal support budgeting, account system, investment techniques and adjustment mechanisms for pension benefits is strengthened.																																																	
2.3.1	Budgeting of social security expenditures and fund management																																																	
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ID	DESCRIPTION	M1	Y1										Y2										Y3										Y4																		
			S1					S2					S1					S2					S1					S2					S1					S2													
			M2	M3	M4	M5	M6	M7	M8	M9	M10	M11	M12	M13	M14	M15	M16	M17	M18	M19	M20	M21	M22	M23	M24	M25	M26	M27	M28	M29	M30	M31	M32	M33	M34	M35	M36	M37	M38	M39	M40	M41	M42	M43	M44	M45	M46	M47			
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3.2.4	Procedures and methods for requirement verification within Social Assistance system at central, local, urban and rural level																																																		
3.3	Result 11: Efforts of the MoCA in improved care for poor rural people and disabled people are strengthened, and public information and transparency of social assistance policies are raised at provincial level																																																		
3.3.1	Social Assistance for specific groups - services for children, elderly, people with disabilities, with a special focus on poor rural people																																																		
3.3.2	Social Assistance services for poor people and families – service delivery approach																																																		
3.3.3	Communication techniques and channels of public information on Social Assistance policy																																																		

LEGENDA	
	Identification Phase: Situation analysis, Identification and review of possible relevant EU experience, Workshop with Stakeholders on the Identification Phase.
	Analysis Phase: Specific analysis of relevant EU experience, Training/visits to EU countries, Workshop with Stakeholders on the Analysis Phase, Elaboration of reform proposal.
	Follow-up Phase: Follow-up and ongoing technical assistance and tool development, Training needs analysis and training definition, Possible Training conducted (EU and/or China), Possible pilot application, Evaluation of follow-up phase and lesson learned.
S/SV	Study visit abroad
PD	Panel Discussion
WS	Workshop
C	Technical consultancy by European expert
HLE	First High Level Event on Social Assistance

Horizontal Activities - March 2015 - February 2016																																																			
ID	DESCRIPTION		Y 1												Y 2												Y 3												Y 4												
			S 1						S 2						S 1						S 2						S 1						S 2						S 1					S 2							
		M 1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12	M 13	M 14	M 15	M 16	M 17	M 18	M 19	M 20	M 21	M 22	M 23	M 24	M 25	M 26	M 27	M 28	M 29	M 30	M 31	M 32	M 33	M 34	M 35	M 36	M 37	M 38	M 39	M 40	M 41	M 42	M 43	M 44	M 45	M 46	M 47	M 48		
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4	Horizontal Mechanism for EU-China High level policy Dislogue on soclal protection reform is established																																																		
4.1	Inception																																																		
4.2	Visibility																																																		
4.3	High Level Event Management																																																		
4.4	Coordination and Monitoring																																																		
5	Function of the Project Advisory Committee																																																		
5.1	PAC meeting																																																		

LEGENDA	
	Horizontal Activities
	Press Conference (Opening Event)
	Closing Event
	High Level Event
	PAC Meeting
	Deliverable of the Coordination and Monitoring activity

2.2. Horizontal Activities

2.2.1. Inception

The Inception phase (Macro-Activity 0.1) is crucial to the project, as it has allowed the launch of the project and the establishment of the requirements for an effective project management by setting the baseline, refining the internal organization and identifying the target groups related to the communication strategy.

During the “Inception” the following activities have been carried out:

- ***Consortium Experts Selection***

The Project Leader representative, the Component 1 Coordinator representative, the Component 2 Coordinator representative, the Component 3 Coordinator representative and the Project Secretariat representative have met in order to interview the pre-selected and eligible candidates for the positions of Resident Experts and Office Manager. With the aim to provide a candidates’ pre-selection list, each Component Coordinator has evaluated each one of the candidates on the basis of their curricula vitae in accordance with the requirements needed by the position applied. At the conclusion of the interviews, performed during the different sections, the Project Leader representative, the Component 1 Coordinator representative, the Component 2 Coordinator representative, the Component 3 Coordinator representative and the Project Secretariat representative approved, on the basis of their curricula and contents of their interviews:

- candidate *Jean-Victor Gruat* as the most suitable to cover the position of Resident Expert – C1;
- candidate *Stefano Patriarca* as the most suitable to cover the position of Resident Expert – C2;
- candidate *Marzena Breza* as the most suitable to cover the position of Resident Expert – C3;
- candidate *Leonardo Mazzoli* as the most suitable to cover the position of Office Manager;
- candidate *Stefano Patriarca* as the most suitable to cover the position of Team leader.

These candidates have been shared and agreed with all the Consortium Members during the Representative Meeting held in Rome on the 30th October 2014.

The Project Leader, Mr. Gabriele Uselli, Director of the INPS Central Department for the Individual Account, announced to the Partners the names of the selected Resident Experts and Office Manager:

- *Mr. Jean-Victor Gruat*, Resident Expert for the Component 1;
- *Mr. Stefano Patriarca*, Resident Expert for the Component 2;
- *Mrs. Marzena Breza*, Resident Expert for the Component 3;
- *Mr. Leonardo Mazzoli*, Office Manager.

During the meeting, Mr. Stefano Patriarca has been also selected as Team Leader.

- ***Project Office Setup***

The choice of the office in Beijing required a strong involvement by the Project Secretariat and the Project Leader, considering the complications arisen in relation to:

- Constraints in the budget availability;
- Differences in the parameters related to the measurement of the office surface used in European Countries and in China;
- Communication not always clear;
- Administrative and legal requirements in China for the contracts signature by foreign people.

Considering all these complications, it was decided to rent a temporary office in order to allow people involved in the project and stationed in China, to not compromise their work and, at the same time, to give to the Office Manager the possibility, under the coordination of the Secretariat and the supervision of the Project Leader, to find a permanent solution for the project office in the following project years.

• *Finalization of the Detailed Activity Plan*

For details and descriptions of the detailed activity plan of each component, please refer to the paragraphs “2.4.1 Component 1”, “2.4.2 Component 2” and “2.4.3 Component 3”.

The Grant application form also specifies that “The logical framework needs to be refined during the inception phase, including the definition of Objectively Verifiable Indicators”. This version of the Objectively Verifiable Indicators represents a proposal of fine tuning of that one inserted in the Grant Application Form. This proposal has been already shared by Resident Experts and Team Leader with the Chinese Beneficiaries representative.

	INTERVENTION LOGIC	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS	SOURCES AND MEANS OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
Overall Objective	Furthering social equity and inclusiveness of economic development throughout Chinese society	- Social protection coverage, income distribution, poverty levels, government budget and GDP shares allocated to social protection	-National and provincial statistics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guidelines and priorities of the Chinese government regarding the reform do not change - The EU and Chinese institutions remain interested in the project activities
Specific Objectives	C1. Greater effectiveness and inclusiveness of China's social security system through strengthening the institutional capacity for developing policies	- Comprehensive reforms proposals are developed and subject of public discussion	-PAC meeting minutes. - Evidence of public debate (eg media excerpts) - Statistical reports from MoCA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NDRC, MoF, MoCA and other Stakeholders remain fully committed to share the experience, the Best Practices and the proposals suggested by the Consortium; - NDRC, MoF, MoCA, Chinese Expert, and other Stakeholders ensure their availability for operational meeting, interviews etc, according to the plan shared in order to contribute actively to the project; - The EU and Chinese institutions remain interested in long-term cooperation partnership.
	C2. Implementation of appropriate legal and regulatory frameworks and for enhanced and sustainable financial management of the social security system	- Mechanisms for Social security financial management are clarified and subject of public discussion		
	C3. Improvement of the policy and legal framework and policy enforcement of social assistance.	- Reports concerning access to social assistance show improvements in benefits targeting		

	INTERVENTION LOGIC	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS	SOURCES AND MEANS OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
Results	R1. Mechanisms for EU-China high level policy dialogue on social protection reform is established and partnerships between Specialized Public Bodies of EU Member States and the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), the Ministry of Finance (MoF) and the Ministry of Civil Affairs (MoCA) on social protection are developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High level conferences attract attention of the technical specialists and of the media - Mechanisms for further high level dialogue on social protection policy development, financial management and social assistance after the end of the project agreed; - Dedicated Project Website updated every month; - 2 Electronic Newsletters a year; - List of users registered to the Electronic Directory of Contacts is widespread among the participants each quarter; - Cooperative work between EU and national stakeholders in social protection is documented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - External project evaluation reports; - NDRC, MoF, MoCA and local government publications, documents and reports; - National and ministerial statistics; - National audit reports; - Media & news report; - Project Website; - Electronic Newsletters; - Directory of Contacts; - Constitutional PAC meeting, Press Conference, High Level International Conferences and Closing Conference minutes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NDRC, MoF, MoCA and other Stakeholders remain fully committed to share the experience, the Best Practices and the proposals suggested by the Consortium; - NDRC, MoF, MoCA, Chinese Expert, and other Stakeholders ensure their availability for operational meeting, interviews etc., according to the plan shared in order to contribute actively to the project; - The EU and Chinese institutions remain interests in long-term cooperation/partnership; - The main Chinese stakeholders promptly satisfy operational requests of the Consortium.
Results	<p>R2. Under the leadership of NDRC, coordination of policy making among government agencies in areas related to social protection reform is strengthened.</p> <p>R3. Capacity of NDRC in policy development and implementation, notably establishing and enforcing a national policy evaluation technique in the area of social protection, is enhanced.</p> <p>R4. National policy framework for a full coverage of old-age insurance system throughout China is consolidated by strengthening the interface of various schemes, permission funding pooling, old-age insurance scheme for civil servants/the employee of public agencies and the existing multi-lawyer pension system</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NDRC proposals on social protection reform for inclusion in the XIIIth Five-years Plan are shared with other stakeholders and taken as a basis for discussion in preparatory works ; - A comprehensive proposal for social administration systems reform is elaborated and disseminated to interested stakeholders under project auspices. - A national policy evaluation technique in the area of social protection is developed and tested under the auspices of the project; - At least two-thirds of local officers involved in the training in China and in Europe demonstrate a high level of approval of the training activities; - Clear goals are assigned to the pension system in terms of replacement of past income and minimum living standards - A comprehensive model for multi-tier design of the pension system is developed under project auspices; - A comprehensive policy for developing a universal social pension model is developed and disseminated under project auspices; - An analysis of the consequences of demographic ageing on the pension system is conducted and discussed under project auspices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PAC meeting minutes; - Approval surveys at the end of the Training in China and in Europe; - Minutes and reports of the Workshops in China ; - Approval surveys at the end of the Workshops in China. - Technical documents and reports prepared, published and shared by NDRC with competent levels of Government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NDRC and other Component 1 Stakeholders remain fully committed to share the experience, the Best Practices and the proposals suggested by the Consortium ; - NDRC, Component 1 Chinese Expert, and other Component 1 Stakeholder ensure their availability for operational meeting, interviews etc., according to the plan shared in order to contribute actively to the project; - The EU and Chinese institutions remain interests in long-term cooperation/partnership.
	R5. Reform efforts in response to urbanization trends, in particular the harmonization/integration of the various basic social protection systems for different groups of beneficiary, the portability of social insurances and better suited assistance schemes are supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Model provisions for <u>totalization</u> and vesting of pension rights across regions are developed and piloted in selected places - An analysis of the interrelation between social and economic development and the suitability and sustainability of pension schemes is developed, and used for macro projections to support systemic reform proposals. 		

	INTERVENTION LOGIC	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS	SOURCES AND MEANS OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
Results	R6. The capacity of MoF financial management and supervision of central and local model of social security system and the extension of social security system coverage are enhanced, in particular in the fields of division of expenditure responsibilities, mid-terms budgeting of fund, and performance assessment model.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A model for social security budgeting is developed and tested under project auspices; - A model system of social security performance indicators is developed, discussed among interested stakeholders and piloted under project auspices; - A methodology for conducting Social Protection Expenditure and Performance Reviews (SPER) is developed, introduced and tested. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PAC meeting minutes; - Approval surveys at the end of the Training in China and in Europe; - Minutes and reports of the Workshops in China; - Approval surveys at the end of the Workshops in China. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MoF and other Component 2 stakeholders remain fully committed to share the experience, the Best Practices and the proposals suggested by the Consortium; - MoF, Component 2 Chinese Expert, and other Component 2 stakeholder ensure their availability for operational meeting, interviews etc, according to the plan shared in order to contribute actively to the project; - The EU and Chinese institutions remain interests in long-term cooperation/partnership.
	R7. Enhance the top level design ability in the basic pension insurance; establish actuarial analysis models for basic pension insurance reform.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An actuarial model is developed and tested by MoF under project auspices; - Risk control methodologies are introduced and discussed under project auspices. 		
	R8. The capacity of the MoF in the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investment strategies for social security funds are developed, discussed and tested under project auspices; 		

	management of social insurance funds, focusing on fiscal support budgeting, account system, investment techniques and adjustment mechanisms for pension benefits is strengthened.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Model fiscal policies in support to social security are introduced, developed and tested under project auspices. 		
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Results	R9. Capacity of MoCA for promulgating and enforcing the Social Assistance Law and the regulations on rural and urban minimum standards of living are strengthened; the skills of local officials in policy transmissions and implementation are upgraded.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The legal framework for social assistance is reviewed and widely discussed, reform proposals are developed and tested under project auspices; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of government documents reviewed • Number of recommendations for reform developed • Number of case studies performed - At least two-thirds of local officers involved in the training in China and in Europe demonstrate a high level of approval of the training activities; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of local officers which pass skill assessment test on the training activities • Number of analysis on benefits and recourse distribution • Number of initiatives on data management i.a. to prevent financial fraud - Better access of clients to social assistance mechanisms (at urban and rural levels) is documented through project activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase of beneficiaries satisfaction on rural and urban levels - Percentage of decrease in overlapping benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PAC meeting minutes; - Approval surveys at the end of the Training / Study Visit in China and in Europe; - Minutes and reports of the High Level Event on Social Assistance/Panel Discussion/ Workshops in China ; - Approval surveys at the end of the Workshops in China. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MoCA and other Component 3 stakeholders remain fully committed to share the experience, the Best Practices and the proposals suggested by the Consortium; - MoCA, Component 3 Chinese Experts, and other Component 3 stakeholder ensure their availability for operational meeting (panel discussion), interviews etc, according to the plan shared in order to contribute actively to the project; - The EU and Chinese institutions remain interests in long-term cooperation/partnership.
	R10. The legal frameworks on a) formulation of unified standards for the estimation and calculation of social assistance benefits, b) recognition of social assistance target groups and c) identification of low-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A set of proposals for unification of benefits standards in social assistance is developed, discussed and tested under project auspices; - A methodology for functional identification of social assistance beneficiaries (target groups) is developed, discussed and tested under project; - A definition and quantification of goals to be assigned to social assistance benefits are developed 		

	income families are consolidated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> and discussed under project auspices. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A methodology for and requirement for social assistance services is developed; • Number of analysis on social assistance beneficiaries assessment • Percentage of pilot projects which has adopted the new mechanism - Increase of beneficiaries satisfaction on the social assistance assessment process 		
	R11. Efforts of MoCA in improved care for poor rural people and disabled people are strengthened, and public information and transparency of social assistance policies are raised at provincial level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Targeting of social assistance towards the specific groups (children, elderly, people with disabilities, poor rural people); service delivery for them is documented and discussed under project auspices, mechanisms for improving the situation are developed and tested. - Tools for public information and its transparency i.a. via campaigns and awareness on social assistance, are developed and tested under project auspices ; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of pilot projects which has adopted the new mechanism - Increase of beneficiaries satisfaction on the public information on social assistance 		

• *Preliminary Selection of Pilot Sites*

For details and descriptions of each activity please refer to the paragraphs 2.3.1.5, 2.3.2.5 and 2.3.3.5 for respectively Component 1, Component 2 and Component 3.

• *Preliminary reports*

Reports on baseline data and detailed analysis of the audience for project results were produced for all the Components.

- ***Sharing of the Organizational Aspects of the Project***
 - Fine tune the coordination mechanisms among the three Components: the Team Leader and the Resident Experts are managing the project activities in order to identify common points and mutually facilitate the activities.
 - Share the organizational aspects of the Project with the main Chinese Stakeholders: it has been defined and shared with the Chinese Beneficiaries and the Consortium Partners' Internal Organization, into which each Institution, participating to the Consortium, has highlighted its working team assigned to the project and the related roles and responsibilities.
 - Commitment to a stable interaction and information sharing among all the stakeholders involved in the project through the establishment of periodic meetings and information sharing.

In the table below it is showed the Consortium Partners internal organization for the SPRP project:

Internal Organization					
Country	Institution	Name	Position	Role in the SPRP Project	Responsibilities
Italy	Italian Institute of Social Security	Gabriele Uselli	INPS Head of Individual Account	Project Leader	Responsible for the management of relations with the European Union, the European Delegation in Beijing and with all the Consortium Partners. He has the power of final decision-making for any possible issues internal to the Project. Finally, he is in charge to approve all the project final outputs prepared by the different groups.
		Maria Grazia Rocchi	INPS Director General Secretariat	Administrative Office	She supports the Project Leader in Manage the relations with the European Union, the European Delegation in Beijing and the other Consortium Partners. She deals with the sharing of the relevant information among all the Consortium Partners. She manages the relations with the Project Secretariat, ensuring the monitoring and verification of the activities to it assigned.
		Santina Niglio	INPS Pension Area Manager in the ICT Department	Project Manager Office	She deals with all the activities related to the management and the final accounting of the budget proposals submitted by all the Consortium Partners. She also deals with the consolidation of the Plans for the Project activities. In addition, the PMO, follows the implementation of the IT tools to support project activities and the monitoring of project activities carried out to support the Auditor for the assessment of costs.
		Antonio De Luca	INPS Head of Procurement	Contract Management	He manages all the aspects related to contractual activities for the trips organization. Furthermore, he maintains the relations with the Consortium Partners in relation to contractual aspects.
		Antonello Crudo	INPS Head of Pension	Component 1 Chief	Each Component Chief is responsible for the coordination and the management of the project activities assigned to INPS, in relation to its specific component. Moreover, each Component Chief monitors, on behalf of the Project Leader, the activities performed by the Consortium Partners in relation to its component, with the aim to ensure their correct execution and the achievement of the project expected results also taking into consideration the budget assigned to the component.
		Antonio De Luca	INPS Head of Procurement	Component 2 Chief	
		Luca Sabatini	INPS Head of Social Assistance Department	Component 3 Chief	

Internal Organization					
Country	Institution	Name	Position	Role in the SPRP Project	Responsibilities
Italy	Formez PA	Marco Villani	Chief Operating Officer - Formez		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collection of data necessary to the project implementation Support in the management of relations between the EU and the Consortium Implementation of sector studies (if needed) Organization of institutional meetings (PAC and IMC meetings and visibility events) Organization of activities, offices, personnel and general logistics in China Support in the Collection of the financial reporting of the various Partners Support in the preparation of documents and certification that will be required by the Audit of the EU Creation and management of a project website including translation and publication of relevant documents Creation and management of conventional and electronic archives of project documents Definition, in agreement with the project leader of tools and methodologies for collaboration Support in the monitoring of statistical and financial data Technical support for the activities of the three Components Support to the Project Leader for the preparation of administrative documents relating to financial and programming issues Preparation of the contract arrangements for the European public staff as mandated body, if delegated by the Project Leader Preparation of the welcome kits, for all Europeans that will go to China, containing a set of practical information (telephone, logistics, orientation, emergencies, etc.)
		Silvia Boni	Expert in health and social policy field	Expert	
		Giulio Artegiani	Manager of International Relations - Formez	Project Manager	
		Tania Elisa Aromando		Project Manager Assistant	
		Mario Barca		Reporting activities	
		Rossella Mancusi Barone	Lawyer	Legal activities	
		Patrizia Lucia Covello	Lawyer	Contractual activities	
Italy	National School of Administration SNA	Aurelio La Torre			

Internal Organization					
Country	Institution	Name	Position	Role in the SPRP Project	Responsibilities
Belgium	Federal Public Service Social Security	Didier Verbeke	FPS Social Security	Project Manager, member IMC	
		Michiel Van Der Heyden	FPS Social Security	Project Support, alternate IMC	
		Koen Vleminckx	FPS Social Security	Operational management component 1	
		Albert De Bruyckere	National Pensions Office	Responsible for the cooperating BE social security institutions	
		Josée Goris	PPS Social Integration, anti-Poverty Policy, Social Economy and Federal Urban Policy	Operational management component 3	
Poland	Ministry of Labour and Social Policy	Monika Szostak		Director	
		Marcin Pietruszka		Head of unit	
		Agata Tomasiak		Contact point	
		Marzena Breza		Director	

Country	Institution	Name	Position	Role in the SPRP Project	Responsibilities
Romania	Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Protection and Elderly	Lacramioara Corcheș	Director general – DG Social Assistance	Project coordinator and Short term expert on Social Assistance / Social Protection/ Social Inclusion	Coordinating the activities performed in the project by RO
		Elena Dobre	Director – Social Services and Social Inclusion Directorate	Coordinator of the social services and social inclusion sub component / activities performed in the project by RO, and Short Term Expert on Social Assistance / Social Protection/ Social Inclusion	
		Mihaela Grecu	Director – Social Assistance Policies Directorate	Coordinator of the social assistance benefits sub component / activities performed in the project by RO, and Short Term Expert on Social Assistance / Social Protection	
		Olivia Rusandu	Public Manager - Social Services and Social Inclusion Directorate	Assistant project coordinator, Contact point for the relation with Consortium leader and partners and Short Term Expert on Social Assistance / Social Protection/ Social Inclusion	
		Alexandru Alexe	Public Manager - Social Assistance Policies Directorate	Short term expert on Social Assistance / Social Protection	
		Cristina Grozavu	Public Manager - Social Assistance Policies Directorate	Short term expert on Social Assistance/ Social Protection	

Internal Organization					
Country	Institution	Name	Position	Role in the SPRP Project	Responsibilities
Spain	Ministry of Employment and Social Security MEySS	Lucía Ortiz	Deputy Director of International Social and Labor Relations	Member of the IMC. Coordination of MEySS participation in the project. Contact point. Project supervisor and support.	
		Pilar Madrid	Head of Cabinet of the Secretary of State for Social Security	Project supervisor and support.	
		María Teresa Quílez	Deputy Director of Management and Economic and Financial Analysis. Directorate General of Planning for the Social Security	Project supervisor, support and activity designer.	
		Luisa Cano de Santayana	Advisor of Cabinet of the Secretary of State for Social Security	Project supervisor and support.	
		Daniel García	Technical Advisor of Cabinet of the Secretary of State for Social Security	Project supervisor and support.	
		Montserrat Calvo	Technical Advisor of Cabinet of the Secretary of State for Social Security	Project supervisor and support.	
		Adelaida Bosch	Technical Advisor of the Deputy Direction of International Social and Labor Relations	Project supervisor and support. Assistant of IMC member.	

Internal Organization					
Country	Institution	Name	Position	Role in the SPRP Project	Responsibilities
Spain	Fundación Internacional y para Iberoamérica de Administración y Políticas Públicas FIIAPP	Augustin Fernandez	Director of Unit		
France	Agence pour le développement et la coordination des relations internationales ADECRI	Yannick D'haene	General Delegate	Component Coordinator - Component 1	
		Laurent de l'Espinay	Project Manager	Deputy Component Coordinator Focal point for France - Component 1/Component 2/Component 3	
		Audrey Ferrand	Executive Assistant	Secretarial support - Component 1/Component 2/Component 3	
Czech Republic	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	Tomas Machanec		Director of the Social Security Department - Component 1	Tomas Machanec is mainly responsible for the operation of the Social Security Department and previously he served as the advisor on pension reform to the minister. His duties consist of managing the day-to-day work of the Department and he serves as an intermediary between the policy makers (the political representation) and the executive body of the ministry. Therefore he can provide expertise on both the policy-making process and the optimal running of the analytical and legislative work of the Department.

Internal Organization					
Country	Institution	Name	Position	Role in the SPRP Project	Responsibilities
Czech Republic	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	Jan Skorpik		Head of Actuarial Unit - Component 1	Jan Skorpik leads the Actuarial Unit which is responsible for the analysis and assessment of the pension insurance, sickness insurance and injury insurance. This includes analysis of the potential changes to the system. His unit follows the latest developments in the economy, demography and society in order to perform all the necessary calculations and modelling. Economist by education, Mr Skorpik has experience from two different governmental committees on pension reform (2004, 2010). In 2004 committee he prepared analysis of wide range of systemic pension reform proposals made by Parliamentary political parties. He supports 2010 committee by analysis concerning relevant pension issues discussed.
		Martin Stepanek		Expert - Component 1	Martin Stepanek is a senior member of the Actuarial Unit with over 15 years of experience in the Ministry. His expertise comprises history of the insurance schemes, international comparison and sociological aspects of the schemes. Mr Stepanek has been a speaker at multiple international pension related conferences.
		Marek Suchomel		Expert - Component 1	Marek Suchomel is a junior member of the Actuarial Unit with 5 years of experience. He also spent 6 months as at an internship at the OECD. His main duties are economic analysis and pension modelling. He has experience from 2010 governmental committee too. And he has presented Czech pension reform policy and concrete measures at different national and international forum.
		Katerna Jrkova		Director of the Social and Family Policy Department - Component 3	Katerna Jrkova is mainly responsible for managing and operation of the Department. She serves as an intermediary between the political representation and the executive body of the Ministry. Her principal expert competency consists in design of conceptual framework of social benefit systems, family policy measures and social work. Related to the project she can provide expertise on both the policy-making process and the optimal running of the analytical and legislative work.
		Michaela Kepkova		Head of the Unit of Non-contributory Social and Family Benefits - Component 3	Michaela Kepkova is responsible for managing and operation of the Unit. She is a lawyer with long lasting professional experience in state administration. She participates in design and implementation of all substantial social reforms during the past 30 years. At present, she is in charge of elaboration of concepts and factual and legal intentions and expounding of all non-contributory benefit schemes (state social support, assistance in material need, benefits for people with disabilities). She also participated in the previous EU-China project (consulting on the Czech benefit system).

Internal Organization					
Country	Institution	Name	Position	Role in the SPRP Project	Responsibilities
Czech Republic	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	Hana Zelenkova		Component 3	Hana Zelenkova is a senior member of the Unit of Non-contributory Social and Family Benefits responsible for the international activities, comparisons, analysis and assessment of the social protection in general and social benefit schemes particularly. She focuses on issues related to fight against social exclusion and design of social inclusion strategies towards vulnerable groups of population. Economist by education and researched by background, she has experience from several EU project (Community Action Programme to Combat Social Exclusion 2002 - 2006, Mobility Partnership with the EU 2010). In 2004 – 2005 she was a member of Group of Specialists on Housing Policies for Social Cohesion of the Council of Europe. She also participated in the previous EU-China project (consulting on the Czech benefit system).
		Dana Hacaperkova		Component 3	Dana Hacaperkova is a senior member of the Unit of Non-contributory Social and Family Benefits. Social worker by education and with over 18 years of engagement in the Ministry, she is experienced in methodological guidance of benefits providers as well as in preparing new pieces of legislation and legal readings in a field of social benefits. Her expertise comprises history of the social assistance schemes, including analysis of the potential changes to the system, she deals with inclusion policies. She was a member of an expert group “Empowering of People in Extreme Poverty” under the Council of Europe. She specializes in social protection and benefits for people with disabilities.
		Jan Smida		Component 3	Jan Smida is a junior member of the Unit of Non-contributory Social and Family Benefits with 3 years of experience in methodological guidance of bodies performing assistance in material need. He is also involved in preparation of conceptual materials for social policy reforms, namely in the field of social assistance.
		Pavel Janeček		Head of the International Cooperation Unit - contact person for Component 1 and Component 3	

BEIJING OFFICE*	Stefano Patriarca	Team Leader	He directly report to the Project Leader, whilst the other two EU Resident Experts will liaise with him for day-to-day operations in China. Moreover, he is responsible for the drafting of ToRs (Terms of References) for short-term missions, with the contribution of the other EU Resident Experts and Component Coordinators.
	Jean Victor Gruat	Component 1 Resident Expert	Resident Experts are responsible for the daily activities related to implementation of the project in China according to the agreed work-plans; they are also responsible in ensuring that any potential issue that may arise will be solved. They report to the related Component Coordinator of the reception of any necessary back office support for the Component. Furthermore, the EU Resident Experts closely work with the Chinese Stakeholders Public staff who will be involved in operational activities
	Stefano Patriarca	Component 2 Resident Expert	
	Marzena Breza	Component 3 Resident Expert	He mainly deals with administrative and logistic matters. He has to ensure the correct functioning of the project office, to manage local petty cash, to coordinate financial reporting.
	Leonardo Mazzoli	Office Manager	

* Within the Beijing Office there are also 5 supporting staff people and the Chinese Experts selected on the basis of the Grant requirement

LEGEND A		The cell highlighted in grey color, represents the person in charge to represent the Institution within the SPRP project
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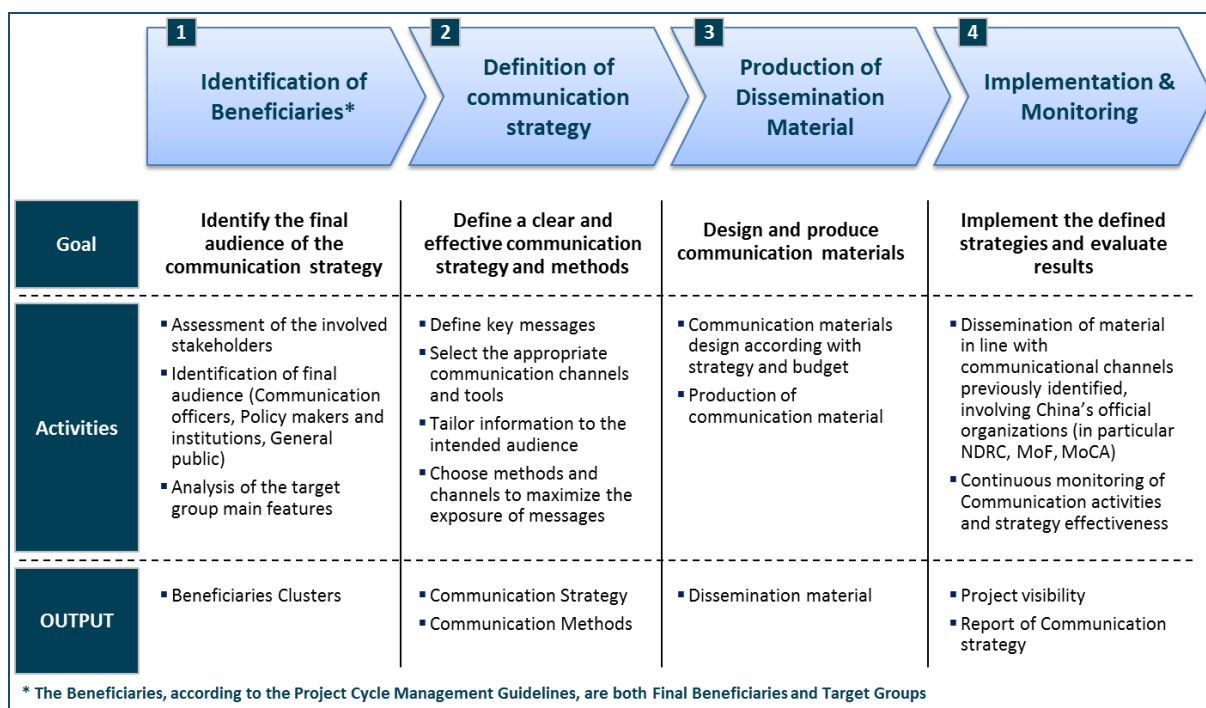
2.2.2. Visibility

The EU-China SPRP dissemination activities will target an international audience. The EU MS have considerable experience in promoting such events and projects at international level, in terms of dissemination of information to targeted audiences, using specific channels.

During the whole Project, the dissemination activities, addressed to the Main Chinese Stakeholders, are crucial in order to:

- Constantly guarantee the alignment of activities to the needs of the Main Chinese Stakeholders;
- Facilitate the achieving of the results that require the involvement of actors not directly involved in the project activities.

In order to identify a solid Dissemination Plan and adequate Dissemination Tools, the Consortium does propose the following approach, which is based on 4 main phases, as shown below:



The first two phases will be carried out during the initial months of the project (as described in "Inception" Macro Activity) in order to:

- Define an adequate Communication Strategy according to the different Beneficiaries identified;
- Plan the Communication and Dissemination Strategy to be undertaken during the project progress and Official Events (High Level Conferences). This strategy will be fit according to the different activities of the project ad described in Macro Activity 0.2 named "Visibility".
- In the section called "Definition of Communication Strategy", the Consortium will pay particular attention to the identification of the Clusters of the Beneficiaries involved in the different activities across the Project Component; the Cluster will be analyzed and classified according to their characteristics in terms of:
 - Geographical distribution;
 - Main information of interest;

- Preferential communication and information channels;
- Level of digitalization.

On the basis of this classification, specific actions will be taken in order to better focus the dissemination activities aimed to the Beneficiaries involved.

The last two phases are based on ongoing activities that will be held during the duration of the entire project.

The dissemination activities in question will be performed throughout the project, but with a specific focus on the Local Practices Units, formalizing a specific dissemination strategy that will be set up in order to ensure awareness in relation to the importance of the Project as well as the full commitment and the involvement during the project activities.

For these reasons, dedicated campaigns will be planned at the beginning of each Local Practices planned during the Project.

According to the lesson learned from the “EU-China Social Security Reform Cooperation Project”, the Consortium aims at assuring the widest dissemination of the Project Results by also considering the following features:

- Translation in Chinese of the final documents, in order to guarantee the full understanding of the Main Chinese Stakeholders (NDRC, MoF and MoCA);
- Highest Visibility of the Project with the possible collaboration of Experts with specific skills in Communications and Media Relations, in order to define a focused and effective Communication Strategy;
- Interaction and collaboration with local Universities will be evaluated in order to reach a greater number of Final Beneficiaries guaranteeing the involvement and the dissemination at the local level.

After the end of the project, final reports on communication issues will be sent to all the stakeholders involved. The final report will gather: the lessons learned about the three Components, the objectives achieved as well as a set of recommendations and strategies for future actions.

The project represents an important example of international cooperation between countries and requires high level visibility, both across the countries (international visibility) and within the Chinese Stakeholders (local visibility). In order to guarantee the maximum visibility of Project results and EU Funding, the Consortium has defined a set of actions to highlight the main distinctive characteristics of the Project, such as the following:

- European Funding of the Project: the Project will be totally funded by the European Commission according to the EuropeAid. The EuropeAid is responsible for bringing aid relating to policy development throughout the world, ensuring quality and effectiveness of the results;
- International cooperation: Public Institutions of most important EU Member States will collaborate together for the achievement of common Results, promoting consolidation and re-usage of the European Best Practice;
- Ambition and Challenging Results: the SPRP aims to provide specialist support to local authorities in order to reform the Chinese Social Security System.

In order to guarantee the full visibility of the Project, the Consortium will share information about the Project as well as the achievement of the main results with the widest audience. The visibility actions are more detailed in the description of the Macro-Activity 0.2 “Visibility”.

In particular, all visibility actions will contain all the information in order to raise the awareness among both specific and general audiences of the why the EU is supporting a particular action.

In the following table the visibility tools that may be used during the project’s events are showed and customized for each event foreseen in 2015. This table only include a first hypothesis to be shared with the main Chinese stakeholders, in order to choose the tool that they will prefer for each type of event, also according to the project’s budget.

Communication Activities	EVENTS				
	Opening Event	Fisrt High Level Event on Social Assistance	Workshop	Visit/Training	Training Courses
Press Releases	1	1			
Press Conferences	1	1			
Press Visits	1	1		1	
Leaflets	250	250	40		
Brochures	250	250	50		
Newsletters			1		
Display Panels	1	1	1	1	1
Commemorative Plaques					
Banners	4	4	5	5	5
Photographs	1	1	1	1	1
Audiovisual Productions		5			

In addition to the tools listed in the above table, the vehicle used for the project activities will clearly show the EU logo as well as the EU-China program’s logo.

Furthermore, a Project website has been realized and is now available in the Formez’s website, while an e-mail Newsletter and an electronic directory of contacts will be implemented, in order to better share the information of the project and create a professional network between the European Member states and the Main Chinese Stakeholders; in order to achieve the same goal, the possibility to use social media accounts will also be evaluated. In order to improve the visibility and the resonance of the project it was requested the authorization to use the logo that celebrates the 40th Anniversary of EU-China relations for the Opening Event. The website will be monthly updated.

It is important to underline that all Communication and Visibility Activities will be carried out in close cooperation with the EU Delegation in China.

In order to guarantee coherence and uniformity of the documentation produced during the Project, the Consortium will follow the guidelines of the templates provided by the EU, according to the “**Communication and Visibility Manual for European Union External Actions**”. The same

guideline will also be followed in order to create the administrative reports produced during the monitoring activities of the project.

The visibility actions will be monitored and measured through the collection and the analysis of the significant data related to the different project events. In relation to High Level Events it will be taken into account:

- Data and analytics of the Website;
- The number of people attending to events;
- A qualitative analysis on the knowledge and appreciation of the project among stakeholders and opinion leaders involved in the project.

Concerning other events, as Workshops, Visit Study and Training courses it will be realized a report about the accesses to the site and a summary report about the satisfaction of participants.

2.2.3.High Level Events Management

As far as established in the project documentation prepared and shared with the European Delegation in China, with Chinese Beneficiaries of the project and with the European partners of the Consortium, it has been defined a plan of events to take place both in China and in Europe, with the participation of all stakeholders of the project.

In particular, the plan of next events of the project includes:

First PAC (April 2015)

During this event all major stakeholders will share the project's guidelines, the plan of the project activities for the next 12 months and the relative priorities to be addressed. The meeting will also provide sessions dedicated to individual components, which will advance scientific themes with all the major players involved, both European and Chinese. The PAC meeting is the formal event to share and approve all the decisions taken during the Inception phase of the project.

In particular during the first PAC will be reviewed and approved:

- The final “Organizational Structure” of the Project Advisory Committee (PAC);
- The yearly work plan, that includes:
- an overall section,
- horizontal activities plan,
- three Components activity plan
- Project Deliverable and approval process

The duration of the event is about 1 Day and for the composition see chapter 1 “1.Organizational Structure of the Project Advisory Committee”.

This event, as internal meeting, does not require visibility actions.

Opening Event (June 2015 - tbc)

During this event there will be the formal presentation of the European Partners of the Consortium and of the three components of the project to the Chinese stakeholders.

This event will have a political-institutional resonance, with the involvement of the major speakers in the world in the field of social security and welfare, and will be emphasized by organizing a dedicated press conference, following the instructions provided by the Chinese Beneficiaries and in compliance with the EU visibility guidelines.

The opening event was in a first time planned in the same date of the first PAC (Month 4) but, due to the need to emphasize the scientific activities rather than the visibility of the project and considering some organizational issues, it has been decided, according with the Chinese beneficiaries, to postpone the event in a later stage of the activities. However, it has been already clarified that the new schedule of this event will be foreseen jointly to another project event related to Component 2 (see section “training” in paragraph 2.3.2.3 “Specific Activities”).

The opening event will be held jointly with a further event which will be specified subsequently.

The estimated number of participants will be 100 and the duration will be 1 day.

First High Level Event on Social Assistance (September 2015)

During the multi-aspects discussion between Consortium members mainly Coordinator of Component 3, Project Leader and MoCA with a participation of NDRC, it was agreed that First High Level Event of Social Assistance of the EU-CHINA SPRP will be held in September, 2015 in Beijing. There is foreseen a high level delegation from MoCA, some other officials from the EU-CHINA SPRP Chinese beneficiaries as well Consortium member countries. There is a strong interest that after having the High Level Event on Social Assistance in Beijing the MoCA officials will take part in a Study Visit to the Social Assistance institutions in Poland and Czech Republic as one of the EU-CHINA SPRP partner with the participation of other Consortium members contributing to the Component 3. The whole event as it is a part of the EU-CHINA SPRP will be co-organized together by MoCA, EU-CHINA SPRP Office in Beijing, the Component 3 Coordinator, EU RE in Beijing with a very close cooperation with Project Leader and the Secretariat of the project due to the logistical and financial aspects of the organization process.

For the details about the event see paragraph 2.3.3.6 “2.3.3.6. First High Level Event on Social Assistance”.

Second PAC (October 2015)

The PAC will be held every six months during the project. After the first PAC events that takes place on months 5 – April 2015, a second PAC meeting will take place on month 11 – October. During this second PAC event, Chinese Beneficiaries, European Delegation, Consortium Members and the other project stakeholders, will share all the updates related to the past 6 months of the project. In particular will be performed the following activities:

- Reviewing and discussing the overall planned timing and scheduling of the various work-streams (related to the different topics) and review and discuss progress made on ongoing work streams;

- Sharing and Approving of the yearly work schedule, updated with activities, timing and deliverable occurred during the 6 months after the first PAC meeting;
- Sharing possible issues and risks related to project activities, already faced or probably arising
- Sharing the Project Status Report about the project progresses and outcomes;
- Providing council on annual progress report and recommending on review of biannual action plan;
- Approving deliverables of the different project activities, realized until the event.

The duration of the event is about 1 Day and for the composition see chapter 1 “1.Organizational Structure of the Project Advisory Committee”.

This event, as internal meeting, does not require visibility actions.

2.2.4.Coordination and Monitoring

Due to the high complexity of the Project, in terms of many stakeholders involved, geographical distribution, complex issues and challenging timing, a systematic approach to Project Management is essential.

For the Coordination of this Project, the Consortium proposes the following activities and tools, performed mainly by the Project Leader with the support of the Component Coordinators and the Project Secretariat:

- *Project Work Plan Management*, that includes both the Definition, Supervision and Updating of the detailed plan of the Project and the Definition and Distribution of the Activities between the partners, according to their competencies and skills (“Project Work Plan updated”). All the modifications will be agreed with the Partners involved in the activities and will be implemented in order to ensure adjustability and flexibility to the project. For details on the project work plan, see paragraph “2.4 Activity Work Schedule for Components”.
- *Missions Management*: it has been defined the short term European expert selection process as follows:

Rule of selection of Short Term Experts	
1	Team leader prepares draft ToRs* (Terms of References with requirements and assets needed) for short-term missions, with the contribution of the other EU Resident Experts and Component Coordinators.
2	The Project Secretariat, on behalf of the Project Leader, will publish the required profile through a web call (the time foreseen is about 15 days for Short-Term Experts).
3	The EU MS will submit their applications (Europass CV + letter of interest/ expression of intention) to the Project Leader and the Component Coordinator
4	Component Coordinator prepares a tabular information on the candidates for experts. The identification will include the proposal of selection of the experts for the Action, taking into consideration the best qualifications of candidates (education profile and professional experience).
5	Component Coordinator presents a draft identification to the Project Leader, c.c. to Consortium Members.
6	The Component Coordinators and Project Leader will assess the shortlisted on the basis of the profiles of experts required for each single mission.
7	Project Leader takes the decision on the selection of experts and communicates it to other Consortium Members.

It has been also defined a first proposal of short term qualification, as follows:

Requirements Short Term Expert	Requirement/asset
Qualifications and skills	
Graduate degree in Economy, Law, Statistics, Political Science, ICT, Social Sciences or related relevant field	A
Fluent in English	R
Strong analytical and drafting skills	R
Ability to develop and maintain good professional relations with stakeholders, particularly counterparts and staff members in an international setting	R
Ability to work in team and share knowledge relating to social security to the counterpart	R
Previous experience in execution tasks in other international projects	A
Strong training skills	R
General professional experience	
At least 2 years of experience in the subject matter of the mission	R
Public servant within one of the Applicant Entities of the Consortium or public staff from the connected Ministries of the Applicant Entities of the Consortium	R
Previous working experience in international projects, preferably with EU funded projects	A
Previous working experience in China	A
Specific professional experience - related to action	
Possessing professional experience relevant to the ToR for his/her particular assignment	A
Previous experience in research or previous publications in the area of social sciences	A
TBD	

The indication of other specific professional experiences, to be defined (TBD in the table above) is related to the need to further detail this TOR's on the basis of the scientific themes of each mission.

The recruitment of short term Chinese experts will follow the same procedure, mutatis mutandis. In particular, the selection will be conducted in China, in agreement between the relevant resident experts and main Chinese stakeholders.

- *Project Management and Knowledge Sharing Tools*: the project management and knowledge sharing activities will be simplified through the realization of dedicated informatics tools; in particular there is a dedicated website provided by the Project Secretariat where the main information related to the SPRP project have been included. With the aim to enhance the management and the coordination of project activities among Consortium Partners and other project Stakeholders, the Project Leader is realizing a complete Website that, in addition to the general project information, will make available project news, deadlines and also other specific features:
 - Management of the budget approval workflow, both forecast and final
 - Management of the application and selection of candidates for the different project missions
 - Management of the project documentation
 - Directory of contacts to facilitate the identification of experts on specific topics

Some parts of this website will be available also for other project stakeholders.

- *Issues & Risk Management*: prevention and management of the Project Criticalities has been performed, step by step, by the Project Leader with the support of the Project Secretariat and all the Consortium Partners. They have been foreseen conference call meetings with all the Consortium Partners at least once a month in order to share any possible issues arising.

Furthermore, besides meetings in conference call, the activities of project management and coordination among the partners of the Consortium are supported by an Internal Management Committee (IMC), which is composed of all members of the consortium. The IMC will take place every six months and it has the main objective to agree upon the main aspects to be outlined during PAC meetings, including the work-plan for the following 6 months. IMC may also meet if particular problems arise during the project implementation.

For the Monitoring of this Project, the Consortium proposes the following three activities of monitoring, each with different scope, different activities and different level of detail:

- *Operative Monitoring*: this activity is aimed to check the status of progress of each work-stream according to the detailed plan. In particular, each Component Coordinator will constantly monitor their results in terms of:
 - Timing and deadlines
 - Completed activities
 - Deliverables Status and Quality
 - On-going activities
 - Next activities
 - Risks and measures taken to avoid or solve them, whenever possible
 - Issues Report

In case of significant issues, corrective and recovery actions will be defined and addressed.

Every six months each Component Coordinator will produce a “Component Status” Report on the progress of the work-stream to be shared with the Project Leader and EU MS involved in the Component.

- *Ex-post monitoring*: this activity, aimed to verify the effective achievement of the expected results and to identify the main "lessons learned" resulting from planning mistakes. So, during the current

year two related reports will be produced by the Project Leader, in cooperation with the Project Secretariat on May and November.

- *Project Monitoring*: this activity, aimed to monitor the overall progress of the Project. During the current year two related reports will be produced by the Project Leader in cooperation with the Project Secretariat on the basis of other 3 reports: Component Status Report, Project Work Plan and Ex-Post Monitoring Report. In order to collect the information of the three reports and organize them in an effective way, the Project Monitoring Report will be prepared on May and November.

All the reports planned will guarantee coherence and adherence to administrative reports required by EU Commission Visibility Guidelines.







A meeting among the Project Leader, the Project Secretariat and the Component Coordinators will be organized in order to internally discuss the “Ex-Post Monitoring” and the “Project Monitoring” Reports. The monitoring meetings will be organized, if possible, at the same time with other scheduled events in order to facilitate and rationalize the encounters and budget spending; however, the meetings could be organized through a call/video conference.

Finally, an Interim report will be produced by the Project Leader at the end of the first year of the Project, on December 2015, describing an overall situation of the project, with a specific reference to the budget consumption.

On the basis of the activities previously described and taking into consideration the events foreseen in the 3 Components for which it is needed a dedicated visibility and dissemination activity, it has been defined the following plan on horizontal activities:

Horizontal Activities - March 2015 - February 2016																
ID	DESCRIPTION	Y 1														
		S 1							S 2							Y 2
		M 1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12	M 13	M 14	M 15
		XII 14	I 15	II 15	III 15	IV 15	V 15	VI 15	VII 15	VIII 15	IX 15	X 15	XI 15	XII 15	I 16	II 16
4	Horizontal Mechanism for EU-China High level policy Dialogue on social protection reform is established															
4.1	Inception															
4.1.1	Consortium Experts Selection															
4.1.2	Project Office Setup															
4.1.3	Finalization of the detailed Activity Plan															
4.1.4	Preliminary Selection of Pilot Sites *															
4.1.5	Sharing of the organizational Aspects of the Project															
4.1.6	Preparation of Aide-Mémoire															
4.2	Visibility															
4.2.1	Design and Management of the project Website															
4.2.2	Design and Management of a Project Electronic Directory of Contacts															
4.2.3	Customization of the Communication Strategy for <i>High Level Event on Social Assistance</i>															
4.2.4	Customization of the Communication Strategy for <i>Opening Event</i>															
4.2.5	Customization of the Communication Strategy for <i>Workshop in China</i>															
4.2.6	Customization of the Communication Strategy for <i>Training in France</i>															
4.2.7	Customization of the Communication Strategy for <i>Study visit to Spain, Poland, and the Czech Republic</i>															
4.2.8	Customization of the Communication Strategy for Study visit to Poland and the Czech Republic															

ID	DESCRIPTION		Y 1														Y 2	
			S 1							S 2							S 1	
		M 1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12	M 13	M 14	M 15		
		XII 14	I 15	II 15	III 15	IV 15	V 15	VI 15	VII 15	VIII 15	IX 15	X 15	XI 15	XII 15	I 16	II 16		
4.2.9	Implementation of Visibility Actions for <i>High Level Event on Social Assistance</i>																	
4.2.10	Implementation of Visibility Actions for <i>Opening Event</i>																	
4.2.11	Implementation of Visibility Actions for <i>Workshop in China</i>																	
4.2.12	Implementation of Visibility Actions for <i>Training in France</i>																	
4.2.13	Implementation of Visibility Actions for <i>Study visit to Spain, Poland, and the Czech Republic</i>																	
4.2.14	Implementation of Visibility Actions for Study visit to Poland, and the Czech Republic																	
4.3	High Level Event Management																	
4.3.1	Organization of a Press Conference (Opening Event)																	
4.3.2	Organization of a first High Level Event on “Social Assistance”																	
4.4	Coordination and Monitoring																	
4.4.1	Project Work Plan Management																	
4.4.2	Missions Management																	
4.4.3	Project Management and Knowledge Sharing Tools																	
4.4.4	Issues & Risk Management																	
4.4.5	Operative Monitoring																	
4.4.6	Project Monitoring																	
4.4.7	Ex-Post Monitoring																	
5	Function of the Project Advisory Committee																	
5.1	PAC meeting																	

LEGENDA	
	Macro Horizontal Activities
	Horizontal Activities
	Press Conference (Opening Event)
	High Level Event
	PAC Meeting
	Deliverable of the Coordination and Monitoring activity

2.3. Plan of Activities, 2015

In the following sections will be given the annual plan for the horizontal activities and for each of the component. The plan has been changed compared to what expected in the Grant Application Form following the indications of the Chinese Beneficiaries. This plan will be reviewed and updated every six months. Each component will be illustrated by considering a homogeneous structure which includes:

- The relation of the Resident Experts;
- the overall plan;
- the table of topic and sub-topic;
- the examples of best practices identified to date (to be modified according to the indications of the Chinese Beneficiaries).

2.3.1. Component 1

2.3.1.1. Overall objective and Expected results

The overall scope of the SPRP project is to further develop social equity and inclusiveness of economic development throughout Chinese society. Within the project, Component 1 has to specifically deal with the consolidation of institutional capacity for social protection policy development and reforms in collaboration with the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) – which is the national agency responsible for strategic overview of the national social and economic development of China.

Among the eleven results the project is expected to achieve, four are explicitly assigned to its component 1, namely:

- Improved interagency cooperation in social protection reform;
- Enhanced capacity in policy development, implementation and evaluation;
- Strengthening the interface of the various pension schemes towards full coverage in old-age; and,
- Reform efforts in response to urbanization trends, concerning notably basic protection and portability of rights.

Table 1 - Expected results, Component 1

R2	Under the leadership of the NDRC, coordination of policy making among government agencies in areas related to social protection reform is strengthened.
R3	The capacity of the NDRC in policy development and implementation, notably establishing and enforcing a national policy evaluation technique in the area of social protection, is enhanced.
R4	National policy framework for a full coverage of old-age insurance system throughout China is consolidated by strengthening the interface of various schemes, pension funding pooling, old-age insurance scheme for civil servants/the employee of public agencies and the existing multi-layer pension system.
R5	Reform efforts in response to urbanization trends, in particular the harmonization and integration of the various basic social protection systems for different groups of beneficiaries, the portability of social insurances and better suited assistance schemes.

For each of the project expected results, specific topics were identified during the phase of elaboration of the Grant Application Form. Sixteen topics were considered as particularly relevant under the results assigned to Component 1 of the project, as shown in Table 2 below.

Table 2 - Topics to be considered, Component 1

Result	#	Topic
R2	1.1.1	Social insurance administration systems reform
	1.1.2	Coordination of policy making among government agencies in areas related to social protection reform
R3	1.2.1	Relationship of pension benefit with minimum social wage
	1.2.2	National policy evaluation technique in the area of social protection (indicators, methods and programs)
R4	1.3.1	Pension reform for public sectors
	1.3.2	Social pooling of the basic pension component
	1.3.3	Universal social pension models
	1.3.4	Multi-tiered design of pension systems (public pension, enterprise annuity and individual pension)
	1.3.5	Occupational pension plans for public sectors and private pension plans
	1.3.6	Vesting, indexation and adjustment mechanisms of pension benefit
	1.3.7	Ageing population and possible strategy of dealing with this situation
	1.3.8	Issue related to the informal sector integration in social security schemes
	1.3.9	NDC (notional defined contribution) pension reform
R5	1.4.1	Improvement of the individual account component in public pension system for urban workers
	1.4.2	Relationship between social-economic development and the redistribution function of social security
	1.4.3	Strategy of integrating social security system in urban and rural context also through the portability of social insurances

Topics were defined as areas of work for which the European experience might, under existing and prospective specific Chinese circumstances, allow significant progress to be made towards achieving the related results.

In subsequent discussions with NDRC, it was agreed that the list of topics could be upheld, subject to possible future revisions owing to a changing social and economic context and Government priorities.

It was furthermore understood that topic 1.1.1 (Social insurance administration systems reform) should focus on considerations related to NDRC contribution on social security for the elaboration of the XIIIth

Five-years Plan, and that topic 1.3.2 (Social pooling of the basic pension component) should in fact address the issue of the Evaluation of the combination of social pooling and individual accounts techniques in pension schemes for employees.

2.3.1.2. Topics to be covered

Among the 16 topics tentatively attached to Component 1 in the Grant Application form, it was considered that the overall Government priorities for social security reform as well as the limited delivery capacity of the project and its stakeholders for a given year required a targeted prioritization of activities.

The most critical and immediate issue for which support from the project is expected by NDRC and other Chinese stakeholders is contributing to the elaboration of the XIIIth National Five Year Plan (2016-2020) in the area of social protection. This is to be pursued under topic 1 - Social insurance administration system reform - contributing to expected project result 2 - Improved interagency cooperation in social insurance reforms. It is expected through the consideration of the overall characteristics of the desirable social protection reform that a system may be worked out, which will prove to be well managed, comprehensive, equitable, socially more efficient, better responsive to the requirements of a balanced economic growth and sustainable under the conditions of new economic normality.

NDRC has identified as of particular relevance in that endeavor the following aspects of the social protection system: Definition of government's boundary of duties in social security, including the duties of government, employer and individual in social security, the duties of central and local governments – which is directly related to the project result 2 -; Improvement of the united account model of pension insurance scheme, including the size of individual account, the operation of notional defined contribution (NDC), etc. that will be specially addressed under topics contributing to result 4, and Vesting, indexation and adjustment of pension benefit, including the contribution incentive of the vesting of pension benefit, improvement of adjustment mechanism, actuarial application in vesting of pension benefit in direct relation with activities conducted to secure project result 5.

Project result 4 - Strengthening the interface of the various pension schemes towards full coverage in old-age – is indeed considered as of crucial importance at a time when the emerging new economic normality on the one end requires that pension protection be strengthened to play an efficient counter-cycle role through additional means of action – Multitier protection systems, topic 1.3.4 -, with public pension schemes providing fair, adequate and sustainable levels of protection– which corresponds to Social pooling of the basic pension component (Evaluation of the combination of social pooling and individual accounts techniques in pension schemes for employees) , topic 1.3.2- and allegedly privileged categories of employees being henceforth part of the same scheme as the rest of the salaried persons – which corresponds to the Pension reform for public sector, topic 1.3.1

It is also considered of the utmost importance to further increase and accelerate efforts towards comparable if not equal treatment of rural and urban, wage earners and non-wage earners categories of the population as far as social protection is concerned. Actually, the “new normal”, with the constraints it carries for economic development, makes the on-going efforts towards balanced access to social protection mechanisms even more a key for preserving social consensus and societal harmony across the country. Support in this area is to be pursued under Project result 5 – Reform efforts towards

urbanization trends – with a special emphasis on the development of a Strategy of integrating social security system in urban and rural context also through the portability of social insurance, topic 1.4.3. This recognized priority ranking indeed corresponds to the long awaited need to provide for efficient mechanisms ensuring continued access to social protection for the vast numbers of migrant workers still confronted to serious difficulties and loopholes in social protection coverage when it comes notably but not exclusively to vesting of pension rights.

The remaining 11 topics to be considered under component 1 of the project would be introduced in the years 2016 and 2017 – subject of course to their continued relevance, and to the constant monitoring of the evolving socio-economic situation, as well as Government priorities in terms of social protection reform.

While all five topics retained for review in 2015 under the project Component 1 all deserve priority consideration, it was considered that their simultaneous treatment would risk creating bottlenecks resulting for limited project delivery capacities, hence negatively affecting the quality of collaborative work. The decision was therefore made to stagger consideration of these topics on two batches starting respectively in March and in July 2015, as shown in table 3 below.

Table 3 – Topics to be considered in 2015, component 1

ID	DESCRIPTION	R.	DATE STARTS
1	Component 1 - Strengthening institutional capacity for social protection policy development and reforms		
1.1.1	Social insurance administration systems reform [contributing to the elaboration of the XIIIth National Five Year Plan (2016-2020)]	2	M V (Apr15)
1.3.4	Multi-tiered design of pension systems (public pension, enterprise annuity and individual pension)	4	M V (Apr15)
1.3.2	Social pooling of the basic pension component (Evaluation of the combination of social pooling and individual accounts techniques in pension schemes for employees)	4	M V (April 15)
1.3.1	Pension reform for public sectors	4	M VIII (July 15)
1.4.3	Strategy of integrating social security system in urban and rural context also through the portability of social insurances	5	M VIII (July15)

For each of the above listed topic, the subsequent sections of this document will introduce the corresponding activities to be conducted in 2015 following the overall approach in the Grant application form across Identification and Analysis phases – Identification phase corresponding mainly to the review of the current situation in China and in European countries for a given topic, while the Analysis phase leads to the elaboration of adequate reform proposals taking into account the most relevant EU best practices for the same topic.

Some activities will be common to several topics (e.g. panel discussions or workshops) and be therefore considered under a separate heading, as will the activities to be conducted under the Pilot sites selected to test under real life conditions the approach to a few, particularly sensitive topics.

Annexes show the list of topics and sub-topics attached to Component 1, the overall Gantt table for the project and the chart detailing 2015 proposed activities.

2.3.1.3. *Specific Activities*

Situational Analysis

As per the Grant application form (Macro-activity 0.1), the EU Resident experts will produce jointly at the inception of the project an analysis of the audience for project results, a brief diagnosis of the situation and provide the baseline data. This preparatory work will help focusing better the terms of reference for the subsequent review of retained topics.

For each of the five topics to be considered under the project component 1 in 2015, the project will conduct a situational analysis of the Chinese circumstances. Works will be conducted in full collaboration with NDRC, which is the main national stakeholder for Component 1. Work will be entrusted to Chinese experts identified and recruited by the project. Coherence among the various situational analysis will be organized through mid-term peer review and quality control conducted via a Chinese main expert (Research) working in close collaboration with the EU Resident expert and NDRC. It is envisaged that a European expert will be fielded by the project for each batch of situational analysis, in order to ascertain that the assessment reports correspond to the level and quality of information required to allow for proper matching with the corresponding EU experience in terms of best practices.

The output of this activity will be a good knowledge of the Chinese situation related to the topic under consideration, while deliverables will be situation diagnosis and baseline, and the assessment reports in English documenting the findings and conclusions of the Chinese experts¹.

Identification and Review of Possible Relevant EU Experience

Consortium members will produce country reports presenting national respective situations in selected European countries, targeted to each topic and related to priorities expressed by the main Chinese stakeholders – see below, Cross-topic activities. Most directly involved Consortium members² will therefore prepare and document Best practices reports for each of the topics selected for consideration in 2015 under Component 1 activities. Preliminary works on the contents of best practice reports will initially be based on the list of topics and sub-topics developed by Consortium members³. The situation analysis reports will be used to refine the contents of the reports, and make them focus on the direct preoccupations of the Chinese stakeholders, for each of the topics under consideration.

In compiling the best practices contributions from EU Member states, special attention will be paid to Experiences and lessons learned of adjusting Social security policies to adapt to economic crisis in EU Countries.

A short-term EU expert will be recruited by the project to monitor, from China, the production of these Best practices reports, and their compatibility with the expectations and requirements of the Chinese stakeholders.

The output of this activity will be a solid documentation on EU best practices relevant for addressing Chinese social protection reform listed priorities, while deliverables will be Best practices reports for each of the topics considered under Component 1 plan of activities for 2015, including a special contribution on experiences and lessons learned in addressing economic crisis.

Training / Study assignments to EU countries

¹ It is expected that each Situational analysis will be limited to some 40 pages.

² For Component 1, most directly involved Consortium members are France (component coordinator), Belgium, the Czech Republic, Italy and Spain.

³ List of potentially useful best practices from selected Consortium members is provided in an annex to the activity plan.

Training in France

The design of Multitier pension systems is a key to achieving a comprehensive framework for old-age protection – Project expected Result 4 - under circumstances where a one pillar protection mostly financed or heavily subsidized by the Government, cannot any more be considered as sufficient to sustainably provide an adequate and general protection. In view of the rich and varied experience of European countries in that area, and of the technical complexity of the topic, which is composed of multiple facets, an international training course will be arranged in France involving for 2 -weeks duration 25 participants selected by NDRC from its national and local competent staff. Course will combine classroom lectures presenting a variety of European and international experiences in all aspects related to the design, implementation and monitoring of multi-tier pension systems, with visits in situ to relevant social security institutions. Lecturers will be confirmed trainers and pension scheme specialists from a variety of countries and institutional backgrounds. While the participation of national (French) lecturers will normally be covered by their organisation, the project will have to fund the input from other trainers according to its own financial rules.

The project component C1 will provide technical input into the pre-training briefing for participants. An evaluation exercise will be conducted in Beijing for trainees and other selected participants with the participation of a Chinese and a European expert to help maximize the potential benefits of the activity. NDRC feedback on the training report of the participants will also be provided on the occasion of the evaluation exercise.

The output of this activity will be, for a group of Chinese specialists, managers and leaders, a direct knowledge of the merits and intricacies of public and private, occupational and general multi-tier pension systems, while the deliverables will be a complete course schedule to be used for further reference and possible replication, reports of the trainees and the evaluation report of the training course.

TOPIC: Multi-tier pension systems	
	Participants / Duration
Training course in France – Topic 1.3.4	25 participants, 2 weeks
Follow-up, evaluation exercise (Beijing)	35 participants, 1 day

Migrant Workers - Study visit to Spain, Poland, and the Czech Republic⁴

Securing and vesting social security rights for Migrant Workers, notably in the areas of pension and health insurance, are key factors for required, continued urbanization and labour mobility in China. Over the past several decades, European countries have accumulated a rich experience in that area. The European Union has developed specific, very efficient procedures to ensure continuity in protection for migrant workers across Europe, including for those workers originating from non-European countries.

⁴ Activity subject to financial clearance concerning international travel by Chinese participants.

The European experience seems directly relevant to the Chinese situation, and it is therefore considered as highly desirable that a study visit be conducted in European countries that, as new member States, have started sending to other European countries growing cohorts of migrant workers – Poland, the Czech Republic – or that – Spain – have a rich experience in receiving important numbers of migrant workers especially non-qualified labour from non-European countries.

The study visit, while focusing on migrant workers social security issues will deal more specifically in Poland with access to social services for migrant workers) in the Czech Republic with the coordination of legislation, and in Spain with the consequences of economic difficulties on social security systems, as they affect directly or indirectly social security rights of migrant workers.

The study visit would involve a group of six high level NDRC managers for a 10 days duration in total. Upon return to China, a debriefing open to other stakeholders and staff will be organised by the project, with the technical support of 1 Chinese and 1 EU experts. NDRC feedback on the study visit report of the participants will also be provided during the debriefing exercise.

In parallel, a specialized one-month technical consultancy in China will be organized, to practically review possible mechanisms for securing vesting of migrant workers' social security notably pension rights, both at the central level and in a pilot region – Huizhou, Guangdong Province.

Those events have been tentatively scheduled for September – October 2015. The consultancy work will be held notwithstanding possible difficulties in organizing the study visit.

The output of this activity will be a real capacity to develop, implement and monitor practical instruments for ensuring continuity in migrant workers social security protection across China. Deliverables will be a report on the study visit and the related debriefing report, a technical report on social security protection for migrant workers in China, with relevant draft instruments, tools and practical procedural flows and charts attached.

TOPIC: Migrant workers	
	Participants / Duration
Study visit to Spain, Poland, the Czech Republic – Topic 1.4.3	6 participants, 10 days
Follow-up, evaluation exercise (Beijing)	20 participants, 1 day
Technical Consultancy, coordination Migrant workers social security rights	

2.3.1.4. Cross-topics activities

European Country reports

As already mentioned (see the section “Identification and Review of Possible Relevant EU Experience) European countries, members of the Consortium, will prepare country reports documenting the situation in their respective countries concerning the reform of social protection, with emphasis on the three components included in the project. A template has been designed by the European project team to ensure coherence among the various country reports. Selected

country reports dealing with the situation in countries outside the Consortium might also be produced.

The output of this activity will be a comprehensive database on relevant social protection reform in selected European countries. Deliverables will be the Country reports.

There are no specific expert human resources attached to this activity. See however under 3.2 above (Identification and review of possible relevant EU experience)

Panel discussions

The Grant application form provides (Marco-activity 1.3) that *“The Identification Phase will end with a first workshop in China aimed at sharing with the Chinese stakeholders the main outputs and issues emerged during Macro Activities 1.1 and 1.2. More specifically, the workshop will be held in order to disseminate and debate EU Best Practices identified during Macro Activity 1.2, to define a preliminary selection of models, related to the specific topic, to be introduced in China and to point out EU models to deepen.”*

Given the approach adopted to introduce topics in the plan of activities in a staggered manner, there might be a risk to have to hold as many workshops as topics considered under component 1, which would represent an excessive administrative and financial burden. Further, the expression “workshop”, which relates in the Chinese context to high-level events, might be inappropriate to sessions where the main idea is to discuss among technical specialists the contents of summary reports dealing respectively with the Chinese and the European situations.

It is therefore proposed to combine these reviews under two Panel discussions sessions, devoted one to topics 1.1.1, 1.3.2 and 1.3.4 (“batch one”) and one to topics 1.3.1 and 1.4.3 (“batch two”) held respectively and tentatively in July and November 2015. These Panel discussions would gather the Chinese experts in charge of the respective situational analysis, representatives of the interested Chinese stakeholders and the Component management. Consideration will be given to the possibility of arranging videoconference for the event, to facilitate participation by interested EU Member states specialists.

To help in the preparation of the Panel discussions sessions and in the production of subsequent panel reports – that will be used for preparing the preliminary set of topical reform proposals to follow with the corresponding requirement to deepen knowledge on most relevant European best practices – ad hoc support will be provided by 1 Chinese and 1 European expert.

The output of this activity will be a solid ground for a preliminary formulation of desirable areas for reform under the concerned topics, and a selection of European best practices worth deepening for that purpose. Deliverables will be reports on the Panel discussion

sessions prepared by Chinese and European experts.

ITEM	
	Participants / Duration
Panel discussion BATCH 1/ Topics 1.1.1;1.3.2;1.3.4	15 participants, 1 day

Panel discussion BATCH 2/ Topics 1.3.1;1.4.3	15 participants, 1/2 to 1 day
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Workshop on the Analysis Phase

The Grant application form provides (Macro-activity 1.6) that a “workshop will be held in China aimed at debating first draft of reform proposal related to the analyzed topic within Social Protection Chinese framework.”

This activity represents a logical continuation of the Panel discussions sessions which were just discussed – in as much as the workshop will represent a unique opportunity, after duly analyzing the Chinese situation and the most relevant EU best practices to start considering a set of draft reform proposals concerning the variety of topics already introduced under Component 1 plan of activities.

The Workshop, that would gather high level representatives of the Chinese concerned stake holders, Chinese and European Experts and Component 1 representatives could be held over two days, and address the whole set of five topics identified as priorities for the 2015 activity plan of the project C1⁵. Provisions could be made to facilitate attendance via videoconference of interested consortium members and project leadership.

The preparation, holding and subsequent reporting of the workshop would benefit from the support of 1 Chinese and 1 EU expert recruited by the project. The results and conclusions of the Workshop would be of direct use in shaping reform proposals and designing related technical assistance activities, including development of ad hoc tools, as foreseen under the Grant application form Follow Up phase (Macro-activities 1.8 and ff.).

The Workshop⁶ has been tentatively scheduled for the month of December 2015 but could be slightly postponed if needed, especially in view of the proximity of the Discussion panel session concerning the second batch of topics.

Output of the Workshop will be a solid ground for considering further possible reform options to be finalised, and designing a program of accompanying technical assistance and technical tools development to be implemented under project auspices. The deliverables will be the Workshop report including proposals for reform options on each of the five topics to be considered in 2015, and a first set of proposed activities for a technical assistance program and the development of relevant technical tools under the framework of the project component 1.

ITEM	
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⁵ Topics 1.1.1; 1.3.2; 1.3.4; 1.3.1 and 1.4.3

⁶ For practical reasons, it may be envisaged to group the Evaluation exercises foreseen under 2.1.3.3 above with the holding of the workshop

	Participants / Duration
Workshop to discuss first proposals for reform options, topics 1.1.1;1.3.2;1.3.4; 1.3.1 and 1.4.3	35 participants, 2 days

Component management

Component 1 is placed under the overall responsibility of its Coordinator, the Agency for the Development and Coordination of International Relations (ADECRI) of France.

An EU Resident expert, Mr. Jean-Victor Gruat, has been selected and appointed to perform the tasks pertaining to that function as per the Grant Application form. The Grant Application form also specifies that (Macro-activity 1.1) *“All these activities will be carried out by the Component 1 EU Resident Expert in China, with the support of the Component 1 Chinese Expert and in strong collaboration with NDRC’s officers; the availability and the cooperation from Chinese officers will be essential for the success of this Macro-Activity and for the achievement of the expected results for Component 1. It’s important to highlight that the presence of the Component 1 Chinese Expert will help to reduce the time in understanding the China’s current situation providing support to EU Experts.”*

When considering the background and qualifications required to successfully undertake these tasks, it was considered jointly by NDRC and by the EU Resident expert for Component 1 that two incumbents with different qualifications – one technically very knowledgeable about social security research in China, and one extremely familiar with social security international technical cooperation and networking would, taken together, represent an optimal talent combination.

The work assigned in the Grant application form to the so-called Chinese expert has been therefore split up between a Chinese main expert (Operations), Mr. Zhang Guoqing, and a Chinese main expert (Research), Mr. Fanq Lianquan. More specifically, the Chinese main expert (Operations), acting in close cooperation with and under supervision of the EU C1 Resident expert, liaises on a daily basis with the NDRC liaison officer and other Chinese stakeholders public staff for the planning, design, preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of activities conducted within the framework of C1 component of the project (macro-activities 1.1 to 1.12 to be implemented over project duration). Under the same conditions, the Expert contributes to the project horizontal macro-activities and liaises as relevant with activities conducted under the project components C2 and C3. He also interacts with the Chinese stakeholders of the project and appraises the EU Resident experts for C1 as well as, as appropriate, the other experts and EU MS public sector staff concerned of his findings and suggestions related to the expectations of the said stakeholders.

The Chinese main expert (Research), acting in close cooperation with NDRC and under supervision of the EU C1 Resident expert, proposes the selection of national experts to conduct research under project activities, proposes corresponding terms of reference, liaises with selected experts performing their task, provides peer review, comments and suggested amendments for the finalization of research work, contributes to the overall planning of project activities conducted

within the framework of C1 component of the project (macro-activities 1.1 to 1.12 to be implemented over project duration).

The Expert also directly conducts limited research work compatible with his availability and competences. He notably contributes as far as Component 1 is concerned to the establishment of the brief diagnosis of the situation and the definition of the baseline data called for under project Macro-activity 0.1.

The output corresponding to the proper functioning of Component 1 management by the team of European and Chinese experts working in close collaboration with their NDRC counterparts is the smooth design, implementation and monitoring of project activities.

Deliverables are the reports called for according to the requirements of the Grant application form.

2.3.1.5. Pilot Sites

The Grant application form specifies (Macro-activity 1.11) that *“In order to achieve the expected results (R2, R3, R4 and R5) NDRC could select regions of local levels (maximum three) in order to fit in the policy analysis carried out by the central level.”*

Extensive consultations were held between central and local levels, which led to the identification of three regions, ready to commit to pilot activities under the framework of the project Component 1, with effect already from the year 2015.

Those pilot sites were identified as detailed in table 4 below.

Table 4 – Pilot Sites, Component 1

Overall field of interest	2015 Topic	Region	Special consideration	Subsequent topics
Ageing	1.3.4 Multitier pension systems	Shanghai	To be specified	1.3.7 Ageing population and possible strategy of dealing with this situation
Rural-Urban Integration	1.3.2 Social pooling of the basic pension component (Evaluation of the combination of social pooling and individual accounts	Sichuan province, cities of Luzhou 泸州 and Zigong 自贡	Technical twinning with European cities/regions	1.3.8 Issue related to the informal sector integration in social security schemes

	techniques in pension schemes for employees)			
Migrant Workers	1.4.3 Strategy of integrating social security system in urban and rural context also through the portability of social insurances	Guangdong province, city of Huizhou 惠州 Sichuan Province	Technical advice from EU expert on pilot scheme for vesting migrant workers' pension rights – see 3.3.2 above	To be specified

Provisions will be made under the project budget and detailed work plans to facilitate visit to the proposed pilot sites by relevant Chinese and European experts, in order to fully accommodate the specificities and requirements of these locations in the situation analysis and subsequent documents to be produced under the project framework for Component 1.

2.3.1.6. Detailed Gantt

Component 1 - Overall Plan of Activities - March 2015 - February 2016																
ID	DESCRIPTION	Y 1														
		S 1							S 2							Y 2
		M 1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12	M 13	M 14	M 15
		XII 14	I 15	II 15	III 15	IV 15	V 15	VI 15	VII 15	VIII 15	IX 15	X 15	XI 15	XII 15	I 16	II 16
1	Identification Phase															
1.0	Preparation of brief diagnosis, establish baseline data, analysis audience of project results (macro-activity 0.1)															
1.1.	Situational Analysis															
1.1.1	In-depth analysis on the topics 1.1.1; 1.3.2; 1.3.4															
1.1.2	In-depth analysis on the topic 1.3.1; 1.4.3															
1.1.3	Preparation of the Situational Analysis Reports for topics 1.1.1; 1.3.2; 1.3.4															
1.1.4	Preparation of the Situational Analysis Reports for topics 1.3.1; 1.4.3															
1.2	Identification and review of possible relevant EU experience															
1.2.1	Preparation of General Country Reports (cross topics)															
1.2.2	Involvement of other EU Countries in the research on EU Best Practice on the specific sub-topics															

ID	DESCRIPTION	Y 1														Y 2	
		S 1							S 2							S 1	
		M 1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12	M13	M14	M15	
		XII 14	I 15	II 15	III 15	IV 15	V 15	VI 15	VII 15	VIII 15	IX 15	X 15	XI 15	XII 15	I 16	II 16	
1.2.3	Research and preparation of reports on other EU Countries Best Practices on the specific sub-topics																
1.3	Panel discussions with stakeholders on the Identification Phase																
1.3.1.1	Preparation of Panel discussion contents on possible EU Best Practices to apply in China about the specific topics 1.1.1; 1.3.4; 1.4.3																
1.3.1.2	Preparation of Panel discussion contents on possible EU Best Practices to apply in China about the specific topics 1.3.1; 1.3.2																
1.3.2	Identification and travels organisation of EU Expert on the topics included in Panel discussion																
1.3.3	Meetings to share and discuss the EU Best Practices and to select models to be possibly applied in China																
1.3.4	Preparation of reports with the Panel discussion results and sharing with the Main Chinese stakeholders																
Analysis Phase																	
1.4	Specific analysis of relevant EU experience																
1.4.1.1	Technical feasibility of EU MS Best Practices to be introduced in China and preliminary reform proposals about the specific topics 1.1.1, 1.3.2, 1.3.4																
1.4.1.2	Technical feasibility of EU MS Best Practices to be introduced in China and preliminary reform proposals about the specific topics 1.3.1, 1.4.3																
1.4.2	Definition of a first draft of reform proposal																

ID	DESCRIPTION	Y 1														Y 2	
		S 1							S 2							S 1	
		M 1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12	M 13	M 14	M 15	
		XII 14	I 15	II 15	III 15	IV 15	V 15	VI 15	VII 15	VIII 15	IX 15	X 15	XI 15	XII 15	I 16	II 16	
1.5	Training/Study Assignments to EU countries																
1.5.1	3-Weeks training in France on Multitier pension systems (topic 1.3.4)																
1.5.1.1	Organisation training in Europe on EU MS Best Practices on topic 1.3.4 (France)																
1.5.1.2	Travels and logistic organisation of training																
1.5.1.3	Carrying out of Training																
1.5.1.4	Reports on Training in EU and sharing with the Main Chinese stakeholders																
1.5.2	10 days study visit to Spain, Poland, the Czech republic on Migrant workers (topic 1.4.3)																
1.5.2.1	Organisation of Visit in Europe on EU MS Best Practices on topic 1.4.3																
1.5.2.2	Travels and logistic organisation of visit in Europe on EU MS Best Practices																
1.5.2.3	Carrying out of Visit in Europe on EU MS Best Practices																
1.5.2.4	Reports on Visit in EU and sharing with the Main Chinese stakeholders																
1.6	Worshop with stakeholders on the Analysis Phase																
1.6.1	Preparation of Workshop contents on proposals about the specific topics																

ID	DESCRIPTION	Y 1														Y 2	
		S 1							S 2							S 1	
		M 1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12	M13	M14	M15	
		XII 14	I 15	II 15	III 15	IV 15	V 15	VI 15	VII 15	VIII 15	IX 15	X 15	XI 15	XII 15	I 16	II 16	
1.6.2	Identification and travel organisation of EU Experts on the topics included in Workshop																
1.6.3	Meeting for discussing the contents previously identified on the on concrete final proposals																
1.6.4	Workshop closing event																
1.6.5	Preparation of a report with the Workshop results and sharing with the Main Chinese stakeholders																
1.7	Elaboration of reform proposals																
1.7.1	EU Expert advise at central and local (Huizhou, SC Pvce) levels - topic 1.4.3																
1.7.2.1	Final identification of reform proposals on topics 1.1.1, 1.3.2, 1.3.4																
1.7.2.2	Final identification of reform proposals on topics 1.3.1, 1.4.3																
1.7.3	Definition of a detailed plan activities for testing the proposals locally (if requested) and for the following stages																
1.7.4	Preparation of the final reform proposal document and sharing with the Main Chinese stakeholders																

2.3.1.7. Topics and Sub-Topics

During the first months of the project the Resident Experts have proceeded to share and detail more precisely the meaning of the different topics for each result identifying some sub-topic through which the same topics can be articulated. The Resident Experts along with the members of the Consortium shared a variation that has been adjusted on the basis of all the feedbacks received from the Chinese Beneficiaries.

TOPICS		SUB - TOPICS
EU-CHINA SOCIAL PROTECTION REFORM PROJECT - Component 1/ Strengthening institutional capacity for social protection policy development and reforms		
LIST OF TOPICS AND SUB-TOPICS		
Result 2: Under the leadership of NDRC, coordination of policy making among government agencies in areas related to social protection reform is strengthened		
T 2.1	Social insurance administration system reform	<p>A – SYSTEMIC REFORMS</p> <p>Defining the basic lines of a public social security system</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. National Social Security System with state legislation. For certain benefits possibility of management at provincial level. 2. Settlement of different social protection pillars (1st pillar non contributory system, 2nd pillar contributory system and 3rd pillar private system). 3. Determination of possible regimes depending on the protected collectives with a benefit harmonization objective (general regime, self-employed regime and special regime). Rights portability. 4. Different financial systems. <p>B - MANAGEMENT REFORMS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Applying commonly established standards in management 2. Integrating back and front office 3. Managing close to the people (contributors and beneficiaries) 4. Adapting coverage to evolving needs (new risks, new categories, new controls) 5. Staff professionalization
T 2.2	Coordination of policy making among government agencies in areas related to social protection reform	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishing bodies for involving all stakeholders 2. Associating social partners and beneficiaries to management 3. Monitoring social protection as a system, not as individual schemes
Result 3: Capacity of NDRC in policy development and implementation, notably establishing and enforcing national policy evaluation technique in the area of social protection, is enhanced		
T 3.1	Relationship of pension benefit with minimum social wage	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Definition and relevance of minimum pension 2. Relation of basis for contributions with minimum wage 3. Indexation of past contributions
T 3.2	National policy evaluation technique in the area of social protection (indicators, methods and programs)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Indicators, programmes and methods applied in the past and for the future about the incidence of the social exclusion: poverty level, decrease of the revenue, loss of work (Istat - Italian National Institute of Statistics index, etc.) 2. Indicators, programmes and methods applied in the past and for the future about the guarantee and the level of suitability and sustainability of pensions 3. Indicators, programmes and methods applied in the past and for the future about the valuation of accessibility, quality and sustainability of the health system and about the long term assistance: policies for the South, immigration, etc.

TOPICS		SUB - TOPICS
EU-CHINA SOCIAL PROTECTION REFORM PROJECT - Component 1/ Strengthening institutional capacity for social protection policy development and reforms		
LIST OF TOPICS AND SUB-TOPICS		
Result 4: National policy framework for a full coverage of old-age insurance system throughout China is consolidate by strengthening the interface of various schemes, pension funding pooling, old-age insurance scheme for civil servants/the employee of public agencies and the existing multi-layer pension system		
T 4.1	Pension reform for public sectors	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Harmonization of schemes between civil servants and private employees 2. Efficiency improvement of the different pension systems management, through the integration among social security bodies 3. Introduction of processes and tools to rebuild and track the contributory history of the subject 4. How to measure income replacement in contributions defined schemes
T 4.2	Social pooling of the basic pension component	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Extension of pooling in pension schemes – national, regional, occupational 2. Access to basic pension based on residence, citizenship, occupation 3. Inclusion of non contributory periods for computation of basic pension – studies, unemployment, child rearing, disability, military service ... - and related financing
T 4.3	Universal social pension models	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Social pension as universal entitlement, or means tested 2. Relation between social pension and minimum contributory pension 3. Determining level and qualifying conditions of social pension 4. Indexing social pension benefits 5. Variations on social pension depending on residence, other income, age, family composition, etc. 5. Social pension and fringe benefits (housing, food stamps, health insurance, etc.)
T 4.4	Multi-tiered design of pension system (public pension, enterprise annuity and individual pension)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Growing of the social security system: prevalence of the first pillar - public social security 2. Mature social security system: incentives and support to the second pillar - possibility for the worker to invest a percentage of his wage, with the subsidy of its Company 3. Relationship between private social security models and economic availability of the citizens 4. Economic Crisis and possible solutions: possibility to early obtain the availability of the amounts previously accrued.
T 4.5	Occupational pension plans for public sectors and private pension plans	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Differentiation of the supplementary social security plans compared to different categories of workers 2. Specific characteristics of social security funds (type of investment, incomes differentiation, restriction of release) 3. Portability among supplementary funds
T 4.6	Vesting, indexation and adjustment mechanisms of pension benefit	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Funded system and pay-as-you-go system 2. Modalities for covering pension benefits: disinvestments, recourse to the general taxation and solidarity contribution forms 3. Mechanisms of pensions revaluation differentiated on the basis of their measure, influence of demographic factor 4. Guaranteed (real or nominal) rate of return

TOPICS		SUB - TOPICS
EU-CHINA SOCIAL PROTECTION REFORM PROJECT - Component 1/ Strengthening institutional capacity for social protection policy development and reforms		
LIST OF TOPICS AND SUB-TOPICS		
Result 4: National policy framework for a full coverage of old-age insurance system throughout China is consolidate by strengthening the interface of various schemes, pension funding pooling, old-age insurance scheme for civil servants/the employee of public agencies and the existing multi-layer pension system		
T 4.7	Ageing population and possible strategy of dealing with this situation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Transition from the wage-based system to the contribution-based system 2. Differentiation of the application of systems in relation to groups of workers 3. Increase of the average age for retirement, legal and actual ages of retirement 4. Flexibility of requirements to access to the pension 5. Evaluation of active labor market policies for young people and inter-generational pact or conflict
T 4.8	Issue related to the informal sector integration in social security schemes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Subsidies to the Companies for the regularisation of contributory positions 2. Strategies of identification of the black labour and information technologies tools for the control of the data declared by Companies 3. Definition of a normative system of penalization in case of incorrect behaviour 4. Influence of socio-economic conditions on the black labour spreading 5. Spread of an appropriate social security knowledge
T 4.9	NDC (notional defined contribution) pension reform	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Computation of the pension benefit on the basis of the contributions paid by the worker/employer during working life 2. Mechanisms of revaluation of the contributions paid in relation to the GDP (gross domestic product) 3. Need to foresee the coverage for workers with low possibility to pay contribution
Result 5: Reform efforts in response to urbanization trends, in particular the harmonization/integration of the various basic social protection systems for different groups of beneficiary, the portability of social insurances and better suited assistance schemes		
T 5.1	Improvement of the individual account component in public pension system for urban workers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Free and contributory forms of reunification and appreciation of the periods of contribution previously accredited under different social security systems: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Contribution unification systems to be applied during the working life of the subject: calculation of working periods, rejoining of contributory periods among other administrations and bodies, redemption of studying periods, recognition of military service; b) Contribution unification systems at the time of closing of the insurance position: totalization, aggregation. 2. Realization and management of a national database containing the insurance periods accredited among all the compulsory social security bodies and administrations; 3. Database as tool of orientation of welfare and social security policies - fight to the contributory evasion. 4. Telematic tools for the visualisation of the individual insurance position also oriented to the fight to the contributory evasion. 5. Matching contribution basis with take home pay

TOPICS		SUB - TOPICS
EU-CHINA SOCIAL PROTECTION REFORM PROJECT - Component 1/ Strengthening institutional capacity for social protection policy development and reforms		
LIST OF TOPICS AND SUB-TOPICS		
Result 5: Reform efforts in response to urbanization trends, in particular the harmonization/integration of the various basic social protection systems for different groups of beneficiary, the portability of social insurances and better suited assistance schemes		
T 5.2	Relationship between social-economic development and the redistribution function of social security	1. Monitoring importance of social protection in GDP 2. Redistributive effect of social security benefits, social security benefits and taxation 3. Alternative sources of financing (other than contributions based on salaries / income from occupation)
T 5.3	Strategy of integrating social security system in urban and rural context also through the portability of social insurances	1. Existence of special schemes for rural self-employed 2. National and cross-national coordination mechanisms 3. Notion of income replacement for non wage earners

2.3.1.8. Examples of Best Practices from the Consortium

Based on the topics and sub-topics identified they were provided by the members of the Consortium some examples of best practices that can be implemented in China.

TOPICS	SUB - TOPICS	BEST PRACTICES EXAMPLES
EU-CHINA SOCIAL PROTECTION REFORM PROJECT - EU BEST PRACTICES - Component 1/ Strengthening institutional capacity for social protection policy development and reforms		
Result 2: Under the leadership of NDRC, coordination of policy making among government agencies in areas related to social protection reform is strengthened		
T 2.1	Social insurance administration system reform	<p>A – SYSTEMIC REFORMS Defining the basic lines of a public social security system 1. National Social Security System with state legislation. For certain benefits possibility of management at provincial level. 2. Settlement of different social protection pillars (1st pillar non contributory system, 2nd pillar contributory system and 3rd pillar private system). 3. Determination of possible regimes depending on the protected collectives with a benefit harmonization objective (general regime, self-employed regime and special regime). Rights portability. 4. Different financial systems.</p> <p>B - MANAGEMENT REFORMS 1 Applying commonly established standards in management 2. Integrating back and front office 3. Managing close to the people (contributors and beneficiaries) 4. Adapting coverage to evolving needs (new risks, new categories, new controls) 5. Staff professionalization</p> <p>BELGIUM:(MANAGEMENT REFORMS) 1. Social security administrations (SSA) conclude governance agreements and plans for a period of 4 – 5 years with the responsible political authorities on the goals to be obtained Creating multifunctional data exchange protocols. Standardizing (legal) central concepts. Crossroads bank for Social Security: coordination of data streams 2. Pension offices have a common platform of communication and develop a common tool of career management Creating web-based interactive user-applications in the domain of pensions 3. See 2 above 4. SSA are responsible for the implementation of government decisions. Given the context of increased mobility on the labour market, we have developed a system that allows individuals and institutions to track and trace pension entitlements Pension Reform 2020-2040 takes into account evolving needs 5. Staff training programs</p> <p>SPAIN:(SYSTEMIC REFORM) Follow the model of a law impact memory, containing a description on: a) The proposal opportunity, b) Content and legal analysis, determining which legal provisions will be repealed with the laws entry in force . c) Analysis on the laws adequacy with the competencies distribution. d) Economic and budgetary impact, including the law impact on sectors, collectives or agents, as well as its effects con competitiveness and red tape. e) Gender impact, that will assess the results of the new regulation on gender equality and equal treatment between men and women, counting with indicators, future results and impact forecast. Furthermore, the law impact memory may include additional relevant information, with a special care on social and environmental impact, gender equality, non discrimination and universal accessibility for disabled persons.</p> <p>FRANCE:(MANAGEMENT REFORM) Creation of National funds, management by the social partners, tutelage Grouping of supplementary pension funds, implementation of joint services for support to individuals in records tracking (CICAS) Information to insured persons, online access (Tours city Centre). Civil servants: Pension managemetn centers ISO 9000 standard certification. Evolution in personal and realm scope (new insured categories, new entitlements, new social risks) Anti-fraud procedures</p>

TOPICS		SUB - TOPICS	BEST PRACTICES EXAMPLES
EU-CHINA SOCIAL PROTECTION REFORM PROJECT - EU BEST PRACTICES - Component 1/ Strengthening institutional capacity for social protection policy development and reforms			
Result 2: Under the leadership of NDRC, coordination of policy making among government agencies in areas related to social protection reform is strengthened			
T 2.2	Coordination of policy making among government agencies in areas related to social protection reform	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishing bodies for involving all stakeholders 2. Associating social partners and beneficiaries to management 3. Monitoring social protection as a system, not as individual schemes 	<p>BELGIUM: 1. Belgium included all private sector pension institutions (insurers and pension funds) as well as governmental institutions in a structural platform where we negotiate all aspects of the second pillar pension database (including the obligations imposed on these pension institutions). All is done on a consensual basis. Social policy matters are evaluated by the National Labour Council, involving all stakeholders and social partners</p> <p>2. There is a complete transparency towards the social partners. Although social partners do not have co-deciding power, they are consulted before decisions are taken.</p> <p>Social partners (employers federations and trade unions) are equally represented in the board of governors of each SSA</p> <p>3. Ex-ante assessment of omnisectional impact</p> <p>Monitoring by FPS Social Security and the National Central Planning Bureau.</p> <p>SPAIN: Prepare a document identifying the basic coordination keys among social security institutions based on information transfer. Example in Spain: shared social security IT in order to manage the communication among social security data based system.</p> <p>FRANCE: Creation and functions of Higher Councils - Higher Council for the Future of Health Insurance, Pensions Advisory Council, Employment Advisory Council, Council of Compulsory Levies, Public Finances Advisory Council</p>
Result 3: Capacity of NDRC in policy development and implementation, notably establishing and enforcing national policy evaluation technique in the area of social protection, is enhanced			
T 3.1	Relationship of pension benefit with minimum social wage	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Definition and relevance of minimum pension 2. Relation of basis for contributions with minimum wage 3. Indexation of past contributions 	<p>BELGIUM: 1. Specific rules for minimum pension submitted to career conditions.</p> <p>2. Fixed contribution levels for employers and contributors on salaries. Pension levels are fixed between a minimum and maximum level.</p> <p>3. Salaries are actualized to the index at calculation date of the pension.</p> <p>SPAIN: Article 41 of the Spanish Constitution mandates the Government to maintain a public Social Security for all citizens. In compliance with constitutional mandates, adequate and comprehensive income must be provided to people who haven't enough resources. Protective formulas were established with non-contributory supplements which complement the contributory mechanisms in the field of Social Security System. Others benefits are non-contributory pensions. Non contributory pensions (NCP), it is a (Created in 1990) (Non-earnings related), with National regulation but managed by the regions. Methodology of the EUROPEAN STATISTICAL OFFICE to identify the "income, social and living conditions". "People at risk of poverty or social exclusion rate".</p> <p>FRANCE: Definition and relevance of minimum old-age pension</p> <p>Basis for assessing contributions</p> <p>Indexation of reference income</p>

TOPICS		SUB - TOPICS	BEST PRACTICES EXAMPLES
EU-CHINA SOCIAL PROTECTION REFORM PROJECT - EU BEST PRACTICES - Component 1/ Strengthening institutional capacity for social protection policy development and reforms			
Result 3: Capacity of NDRC in policy development and implementation, notably establishing and enforcing national policy evaluation technique in the area of social protection, is enhanced			
T 3.2	National policy evaluation technique in the area of social protection (indicators, methods and programs)	<p>1. Indicators, programmes and methods applied in the past and for the future about the incidence of the social exclusion: poverty level, decrease of the revenue, loss of work (Istat - Italian National Institute of Statistics index, etc.)</p> <p>2. Indicators, programmes and methods applied in the past and for the future about the guarantee and the level of suitability and sustainability of pensions</p> <p>3. Indicators, programmes and methods applied in the past and for the future about the valuation of accessibility, quality and sustainability of the health system and about the long term assistance: policies for the South, immigration, etc.</p>	<p>ITALY: 1. Statistical indicators described in three official documents: "INPS annual social budget", "INPS annual report" and "INPS annual Report on social cohesion" in cooperation with ISTAT-Italian National Institute of Statistics and Ministry of Labor and Social Policy.</p> <p>2. Adjustment of pensions or increase applied annually by INPS to all pensions in order to adjust their amounts to the cost-of-living (Inflation).</p> <p>3. Methods and criteria for evaluating the income of pensioner in order to grant a minimum amount of pension.</p> <p>BELGIUM: 1. Strategic Social Reporting, National Child Poverty Report, ex-ante impact assessment (microsimulation model Mimosi)</p> <p>2. Simulation Models MIDAS (pension policy) & MALTESE (long-term sustainability) & LIAM2 (tool to develop dynamic micro-simulation models)</p> <p>3. Monitoring by the National Central Planning Bureau. Specific mid and long term simulations. Yearly reporting to Parliamentary Commissions.</p> <p>SPAIN: Statistics: Population data, Population projections data. Methodology of the European system of integrated social protection statistics.</p> <p>Adequacy of pension indicators. Sustainability indicator of pension system.</p> <p>FRANCE: Committee for Piloting Retirement Pension Schemes COPILOR</p> <p>CZECH REPUBLIC: 1) Actuarial expertise (Czech Republic has a long tradition) such as actuarial analysis of the pension scheme</p> <p>2) Pension modelling, dynamic microsimulation aimed at prediction of the development of pension schemes</p>
Result 4: National policy framework for a full coverage of old-age insurance system throughout China is consolidate by strengthening the interface of various schemes, pension funding pooling, old-age insurance scheme for civil servants/the employee of public agencies and the existing multi-layer pension system			
T 4.1	Pension reform for public sectors	<p>1. Harmonization of schemes between civil servants and private employees</p> <p>2. Efficiency improvement of the different pension systems management, through the integration among social security bodies</p> <p>3. Introduction of processes and tools to rebuild and track the contributory history of the subject</p> <p>4. How to measure income replacement in contributions defined schemes</p>	<p>ITALY: 1. Establishment of a single Social Security body for civil servants with gradual convergence of the calculation systems (Legislative Decree 479/94).</p> <p>2. Creation of a contribution reserve: actual monthly deposits for civil servants in place of virtual reserve.</p> <p>3. Unification of INPS-INPDAP by the Decree Law n. 201/2011 (converted into Law n. 214/2011).</p> <p>4. Gradual population and consolidation of the insurance positions of civil servants.</p> <p>BELGIUM: 1. Overall pension reform 2020-2040 (common principles for public schemes)</p> <p>2. All public pension institutions (employees, self-employed and civil servants) are members of Sigedis where we have built central career databases (necessary to calculate pensions) and where we now are involved in making a unique central career database for all type of careers.</p> <p>Examination of common synergies between pension offices</p> <p>3. Our database contain to whole known professional past of individuals.</p> <p>See T.2.1 – point 2</p> <p>4. In first pillar schemes high replacement rates for low salaries, weak replacement rates for higher salaries.</p> <p>FRANCE: Aligning special and occupational schemes on the general scheme</p>

TOPICS		SUB - TOPICS	BEST PRACTICES EXAMPLES
EU-CHINA SOCIAL PROTECTION REFORM PROJECT - EU BEST PRACTICES - Component 1/ Strengthening institutional capacity for social protection policy development and reforms			
Result 4: National policy framework for a full coverage of old-age insurance system throughout China is consolidate by strengthening the interface of various schemes, pension funding pooling, old-age insurance scheme for civil servants/the employee of public agencies and the existing multi-layer pension system			
T 4.2	Social pooling of the basic pension component	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Extension of pooling in pension schemes – national, regional, occupational 2. Access to basic pension based on residence, citizenship, occupation 3. Inclusion of non contributory periods for computation of basic pension – studies, unemployment, child rearing, disability, military service ... - and related financing 	<p>BELGIUM: 1. Pooling only exists for minimum pensions for employed and self-employed pension systems. 2. None. 3. Specific assimilation rules for non-contributed periods.</p> <p>SPAIN: Methodology of Economic and budgetary pension projections. EU.-Economic Policy Committee (EPC) working group on ageing populations. Spanish Social Security budgeting techniques.</p> <p>EU Best practices: Specific recommendations for the reforms. The recommendations are based on a thorough assessment of plans for sound public finances (Stability and Convergence Programmes) and policy measures to boost growth and jobs. Analysis of the possible macroeconomic imbalances. Results of reviews are also studied</p> <p>FRANCE: Differences between basic and supplementary schemes (benefit formulae, benefit levels) Generalisation of supplementary pension schemes with retroactive effect (72-1223 law, Dec.1972)</p>
T 4.3	Universal social pension models	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Social pension as universal entitlement, or means tested 2. Relation between social pension and minimum contributory pension 3. Determining level and qualifying conditions of social pension 4. Indexing social pension benefits 5. Variations on social pension depending on residence, other income, age, family composition, etc. 5. Social pension and fringe benefits (housing, food stamps, health insurance, etc.) 	<p>BELGIUM: 1. Income guarantee for elderly people – minimum age: 65. Means tested. 2. Social pension is means tested. No contributions needed. Minimum pension presupposes submission to a social security scheme (contributions). 3. See 1.4. All social benefits are indexed – index related to consumption price evolution. 5. See 1.</p>
T 4.4	Multi-tiered design of pension system (public pension, enterprise annuity and individual pension)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Growing of the social security system: prevalence of the first pillar - public social security 2. Mature social security system: incentives and support to the second pillar - possibility for the worker to invest a percentage of his wage, with the subsidy of its Company 3. Relationship between private social security models and economic availability of the citizens 4. Economic Crisis and possible solutions: possibility to early obtain the availability of the amounts previously accrued. 	<p>ITALY: 1. Establishment of a Compulsory General Insurance (AGO) since 1969 by the Law 153/1969. 2. Establishment of a Supplementary Social Security: Legislative Decree 124/1993 – Regulation of supplementary pension forms. 3. Reform of Supplementary Social Security: Decree 252/1995. The worker has made a choice between destining his severance indemnity to a supplementary pension form or leaving it to the employer by 06/30/2007. 4. Severance indemnity (TFR): annual reserve of a monthly pay-slip by the employer for each year of employed work that is supplied at the end of worker-employer relationship. In particular conditions (for medical expenditures, house purchase, etc.) it's possible to claim an advance payment up to 70% (Law 297/82).</p> <p>BELGIUM: 1. The growing of the overall social security system has been monitored since the late 80-ies. The National Central Planning Bureau uses different macroeconomic and labour market scenario's that are updated every year in function of economic prognoses and parametric changes in the social security system. Demographic evolution (longitudinal method) are also taken in account . Overall pension reform 2020-2040 (integrated redesign of public pillars & second pillar) 2. Supplementary Pensions Law 2004</p>

TOPICS		SUB - TOPICS	BEST PRACTICES EXAMPLES
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Result 4: National policy framework for a full coverage of old-age insurance system throughout China is consolidate by strengthening the interface of various schemes, pension funding pooling, old-age insurance scheme for civil servants/the employee of public agencies and the existing multi-layer pension system			
T 4.5	Occupational pension plans for public sectors and private pension plans	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Differentiation of the supplementary social security plans compared to different categories of workers 2. Specific characteristics of social security funds (type of investment, incomes differentiation, restriction of release) 3. Portability among supplementary funds 	<p>ITALY: 1. Administrative services for funds of private and of public sector workers; integration with first pillar. 2. Portability of positions and rights built up by employees enrolled to FondInps. 3. Transfer of severance indemnity quota for civil servants moving from a category fund to another.</p> <p>BELGIUM: Portability can, amongst others, be a solution for the risk of losing track of previous entitlements. Our first pillar career databases and the second pillar database (DB2P) serve as a tracking tool that keeps track of every vested benefit. The individual therefore doesn't have to transfer reserves anymore to keep track of its entitlements.</p>
T 4.6	Vesting, indexation and adjustment mechanisms of pension benefit	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Funded system and pay-as-you-go system 2. Modalities for covering pension benefits: disinvestments, recourse to the general taxation and solidarity contribution forms 3. Mechanisms of pensions revaluation differentiated on the basis of their measure, influence of demographic factor 4. Guaranteed (real or nominal) rate of return 	<p>ITALY: 1. Pay-as-you-go system, Law 153/1969. 2. Contributory system, Law 335/1995 (Dini reform). 3. Disinvestment of real estate goods and chattels. 4. Recourse to general taxation in case of imbalance forms of the social security system or the social assistance system. 5. Forms of solidarity on pensions based on equity criteria. 6. Reduction mechanism of the appreciation coefficient in relation to the amount of pension benefit.</p> <p>SPAIN: The Spanish Parliament has passed a law establishing the basis for calculating annual indexation rates for state pensions. The new law breaks the direct link between pension increases and inflation. The indexation formula includes factors such as the income of the social security, the number of pensions being paid out and a percentage of the social security deficit or surplus. The figures used will include averages for past years and estimates of the future years.</p> <p>FRANCE: Review of existing mechanisms</p> <p>CZECH REPUBLIC: 1) Establishment of contributory pension scheme functioning in the free market economy (after long period of planned economy in 1990s) which has been able to keep almost every old-age pensioner above the poverty line 2) Experience with linking the contributory pension scheme with previous different schemes 3) Reforms to the pension scheme</p>
T 4.7	Ageing population and possible strategy of dealing with this situation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Transition from the wage-based system to the contribution-based system 2. Differentiation of the application of systems in relation to groups of workers 3. Increase of the average age for retirement, legal and actual ages of retirement 4. Flexibility of requirements to access to the pension 5. Evaluation of active labor market policies for young people and inter-generational pact or conflict 	<p>ITALY: 1. Law 335/1995 (Dini reform). Law 214/2011 (Fornero reform). Gradual transition between the two systems. 2. "Woman option": anticipation of retirement age. 3. Differentiation of retirement requirements for civil servants and private employees. 4. Law 102/2009: increase of retirement age since 01/01/2010 for women of public sector from 61 years to 65 years. 5. Study on flexible retirement age; gradual change of the amount of pension benefit in relation to an early exit from working life.</p> <p>BELGIUM: Overall pension reform 2020-2040 (integrated redesign of public pillars & second pillar to take into account ageing population etc) 2., 3. and 4. Recent reforms have been strengthening conditions for early retirement. The existing differentiation between several groups of workers has been abolished. Actual government is examining how workers submitted to unhealthy working conditions could benefit from early retirement. 5 Examination of the possibility to take an early partial pension.</p> <p>See T.4.4. - point 1</p> <p>SPAIN: The Spanish Parliament has passed the Sustainability Factor (SF). The SF is an automatic link between the amount of retirement pension benefits and developments in life expectancy of pensioners. As in other European countries, this factor adjusts the initial pension according to a coefficient that is the result of dividing the life expectancy of those who have entered the system at a specific age at an earlier date by that of the new pensioners who enter retirement at the same age but at a later date. - Methodology to develop "mortality tables" for pensioners.</p> <p>FRANCE: Social security and Demography Effects of increasing reference period and contributions requirements for full rate pensions</p>

TOPICS	SUB - TOPICS	BEST PRACTICES EXAMPLES
EU-CHINA SOCIAL PROTECTION REFORM PROJECT - EU BEST PRACTICES - Component 1/ Strengthening institutional capacity for social protection policy development and reforms		
Result 4: National policy framework for a full coverage of old-age insurance system throughout China is consolidate by strengthening the interface of various schemes, pension funding pooling, old-age insurance scheme for civil servants/the employee of public agencies and the existing multi-layer pension system		
T 4.8	Issue related to the informal sector integration in social security schemes	<p>ITALY: 1. Law 08/03/2009, n.102. Dispositions concerning black market labour legalization. 2. Legislative Decree 07/16/2012, n. 109. Implementation of the guideline 2009/52/EC introducing minimal standards related to penalties and actions towards employers who employ third-countries citizens with irregular residency. 3. Annual plan of inspection activities aimed at controlling business sectors with characteristics at risk. 4. Awareness campaigns on social security conscience and on black market labour.</p> <p>SPAIN: "Software CRET@" is a new system for direct payment of Social Security contributions, which will allow it to play an active role in the collection process, changing from a self-assessment model to an invoicing model, as well as providing more information about contributions to companies and workers, using a personalised and multichannel service model. The prime objectives of the project are: to minimise errors when the Social Security Treasury General (TGSS) assumes the application of the rules on contributions, to check data prior to payment and to improve transparency and relations with companies, based on an entirely electronic system, eliminating the need for proceedings in person and on paper. "Software State retirement": electronic application for state retirement (TESOL Retirement).- This service enables users to submit online the application to receive the national retirement pension. "Software Your Social security": the online access to this space lets you know your working life, make a simulation of your future pension, and make some proceedings with the Spanish social security. Monitory and study the criminal persecution of fraud in Social Security contributions and benefits. Changes to the Criminal Code. Actions by the Legal Service of the Social Security.</p> <p>FRANCE: Generalisation of social protection. Non-contributory periods. Special case of the Rural scheme (family helpers)</p>
T 4.9	NDC (notional defined contribution) pension reform	<p>ITALY: 1. Law 335/1995: contributory calculation system.</p> <p>BELGIUM: 1,2,3: Overall pension reform 2020-2040 (introducing point system etc) Also see Results 3 and 4 for first pillar pensions.</p>

TOPICS	SUB - TOPICS	BEST PRACTICES EXAMPLES
EU-CHINA SOCIAL PROTECTION REFORM PROJECT - EU BEST PRACTICES - Component 1/ Strengthening institutional capacity for social protection policy development and reforms		
Result 5: Reform efforts in response to urbanization trends, in particular the harmonization/integration of the various basic social protection systems for different groups of beneficiary, the portability of social insurances and better suited assistance schemes		
<div>T 5.1</div>	<p>Improvement of the individual account component in public pension system for urban workers</p>	<p>1. Free and contributory forms of reunification and appreciation of the periods of contribution previously accredited under different social security systems: a) Contribution unification systems to be applied during the working life of the subject: calculation of working periods, rejoining of contributory periods among other administrations and bodies, redemption of studying periods, recognition of military service; b) Contribution unification systems at the time of closing of the insurance position: totalization, aggregation.</p> <p>2. Realization and management of a national database containing the insurance periods accredited among all the compulsory social security bodies and administrations; 3. Database as tool of orientation of welfare and social security policies - fight to the contributory evasion. 4. Telematic tools for the visualisation of the individual insurance position also oriented to the fight to the contributory evasion. 5. Matching contribution basis with take home pay</p> <p>ITALY: 1A) Institutions during working life of the insured person: free or upon payment rejoining of contributions for working periods performed among other public or private employers, in order to centralise in a single management different periods of contribution. The pension will be paid on the basis of rules of centralising management. Computation of working periods: Art. 11 and 12 of the Presidential Decree n. 1092/73; Rejoining upon payment of insurance periods: Law n. 29/79; Law n. 45/90; Free Rejoining: Art. 6 of Law n. 29/79; Rejoining of services: Law n. 523/54 and Presidential Decree n. 1092/73 (art. 113 and 115); Contributory redemption of periods and services: Art. 8 of Law n. 274/91; Art. 13 and 14 of Presidential Decree n. 1092/73; Art. 2 of Legislative Decree n. 184/97; Constitutional Court verdict n. 52/2000; Validation of periods of military service: Art. 1 of Law n. 274/91; Art. 8 of Presidential Decree n. 1092/73; 1B) Institutions at the time of retirement: rejoining of services performed with enrolment to several social security managements, in order to obtain a single pension. Each single management will calculate its own quota. - Pensions in aggregation system: Art. 1, clause 239, of Law n. 228/2012. - Pensions in totalization system: Legislative Decree n. 42/2006. - Pensions in european totalization system: EC guideline of 07/22/1998; EC Guideline n. 883 of 04/29/2004; EC Guideline n. 987 of 09/16/2009. 2-3) Database of active workers which includes all contributions related to several compulsory social security forms (Law 243/2004). 4) Integrated statement of account for workers who have contributions paid to several managements or among several social security funds (about 6 millions). BELGIUM: 1., 2. And 3. The data stored in the career database remains 'neutral' in the sense that they can be used in several social security branches. This is possible because the data are multifunctional: this means that they state facts (wage earned, time worked, period of unemployment, and so on); we do not store the entitlements based on these 'facts' because legislation can change and so do entitlements. 4. and 5. We are now entering the faze of opening the database for citizens themselves and one of the applications and services offered to the citizens could be a tool that allows them to visualize the impact of career orientations. See results 3 and 4 FRANCE: Evolution in benefits formulae Notion of income replacement, notably in the public sector (premiums and bonuses)</p>

TOPICS		SUB - TOPICS	BEST PRACTICES EXAMPLES
EU-CHINA SOCIAL PROTECTION REFORM PROJECT • EU BEST PRACTICES • Component 1/ Strengthening institutional capacity for social protection policy development and reforms			
Result 5: Reform efforts in response to urbanization trends, in particular the harmonization/integration of the various basic social protection systems for different groups of beneficiary, the portability of social insurances and better suited assistance schemes			
T 5.2	Relationship between social-economic development and the redistribution function of social security	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitoring importance of social protection in GDP 2. Redistributive effect of social security benefits, social security benefits and taxation 3. Alternative sources of financing (other than contributions based on salaries / income from occupation) 	<p>BELGIUM: 1. Social protection statistics and national accounts 2.Strategic Social Reporting & Ex-ante impact assessment (microsimulation model Mimosi) 1 to 3: also see T.3.2. and T.4.4. 3. Financing of social security through 'Global Management' consist partially of contributions by employers and employed and partially by alternative financing methods in function of budgetary needs.</p> <p>SPAIN: Application of the statistics on monetary poverty and income inequalities in the European Union (EU)</p> <p>FRANCE: Macroeconomic data - Risk of inverted redistribution - Reconcile individual equity (base pensions on contributions), social efficiency and financial/economic sustainability</p>
T 5.3	Strategy of integrating social security system in urban and rural context also through the portability of social insurances	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Existence of special schemes for rural self-employed 2. National and cross-national coordination mechanisms 3. Notion of income replacement for non wage earners 	<p>BELGIUM: 1. 3.Social security system for the self-employed (incl. rural self-employed) 2. Coordination among schemes European Coordination (R.1408/71 & 8836/2004) and Directive 2014/50/EU (supplementary pension rights)</p> <p>SPAIN: Portability between systems (f.i.Spanish social security and another system in other countries)</p> <p>FRANCE: Coordination among schemes European Coordination (R.1408/71 & 8836/2004) Directive 2014/50/EU (supplementary pension rights)</p>

2.3.2. Component 2

2.3.2.1. Overall objective and Expected results

The overall objective of the EU-CHINA SPRP project is to further develop social equity and inclusiveness of economic development throughout Chinese society. Within the project, Component 2 has the specific aim of enhancing institutional capacity for financial management and supervision concerning social security funds in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance (MoF).

As identified in the project, one crucial point in China is the supervision and management of the social security funds, since the number of social security funds has rapidly increased in the last decade. Several problems are connected with the management of the funds, which in the last decade are facing different social and economic conditions. The fragmented situation of various levels of management of the funds together with the lack of an appropriate centralized supervision and management of the social security funds have increased the risks on sustainability and on adequacy of the system.

On this issue, the main purpose of Component 2 is to support the efforts of the MoF in managing the above described matter, enhancing the capacity of MoF in developing improved methodologies and financial, statistics and actuarial methods and models.

Among the eleven results that the project is expected to achieve, three are explicitly assigned to this component, namely:

- Project Result 6 – Consolidate the capacity of the MoF in management and supervision of fiscal support to social security.
- Project Result 7 – Enhance the national analysis model of old-age insurance and develop the skills and knowledge of provincial administrators.
- Project Result 8 – Strengthen the capacity of the MoF in the management of social insurance funds.

After a further analysis, MoF proposed to better specify the expected results to clarify better objectives. Following the guidelines received by MoF, the results have been better specified. Below is the table showing the proposed results.

Table 5 - Expected results, Component 2

R6	The capacity of MoF financial management and supervision of central and local model of social security system and the extension of social security system coverage are enhanced, in particular in the fields of division of expenditure responsibilities, mid-terms budgeting of fund, and performance assessment model.
R7	Enhance the top level design ability in the basic pension insurance; establish actuarial analysis models for basic pension insurance reform.
R8	The capacity of the MoF in the management of social insurance funds, focusing on fiscal support budgeting, account system, investment techniques and adjustment mechanisms for pension benefits

	is strengthened.
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In this framework, Component 2 will not just focus on the specific methodologies and management of the social security system, but will further consider the overall issues within the social security system, which are necessary to be identified in order to achieve the highlighted results.

2.3.2.2. *Topics to be covered*

Among the topics tentatively attached to Component 2 in the Grant Application form, it was considered that the overall Government priorities for social security reform as well as the limited delivery capacity of the project and its stakeholders for a given year required a targeted prioritization of activities.

For each of the project expected results, specific topics were identified during the phase of elaboration of the Grant Application Form. Ten topics were considered as particularly relevant under the results assigned to Component 2 of the project. Topics – and associated sub-topics - were defined as areas of work for which the European experience might, under existing and prospective specific Chinese circumstances, allow significant progress to be made towards achieving the related results.

Latest analysis of the situation made with MoF, permitted to update the program and topics to the specific actual needs of the Ministry. Particularly needs and demands underlined by MoF have been analyzed and shared. The needs and priorities of the MoF are the following:

- Responsibilities and governance between central and local government;
- Social insurance actuarial system, basic pension and medical insurance actuarial models suitable for the Chinese case;
- Experience and effectiveness of the nominal personal account reform (taken by EU countries, such as Sweden, Italy and Poland), in order to figure out the practicability and policy application of this kind of account employed in the basic pension insurance system;
- Adjustment of the pension system, which is related to the connection between the pension benefits and the average growth rate of the pension fund;
- Basic pension insurance and the supplementary pension insurance for the civil servants;
- Social security policy regarding informal employment.

Topics were defined as areas of work for which the European experience might, under existing and prospective specific Chinese circumstances, allow significant progress to be made towards the achievement of the related results.

In order to define the time framework of the various actions of Component 2, both MoF and experts of the field have been involved, so that to get a shared view of the plan.

Regarding this point, it is important to underline that during the confrontation with MoF, aimed to get the adequate and effective results, pointed as number 6, 7 and 8, MoF declared the necessity of an updated version and better specification of the topics, due to the emerging priorities of the Chinese Government, which are related to the latest changes and reforms merged during last year. Indeed, previously, these issues were not considered and taken into account yet in the project.

Consequently, the revision of the Topics, was a result of a specific and careful evaluation of the needs, defined above, which were previously identified by MoF. Particularly, this analysis has driven to substitute the topic, previously identified as: “System of statistical indicators for the analysis and management of the social security funds”. This matter has become of lesser concern partly because of the recent activities already done by the MoF in this field, and partly because the remaining necessities in the matter can be covered under others topic.

All topics have been reorganised in the results in order to be more coherent with the better specification of the specific result.

Central elements of study regard the system of pension benefits computing and their correlation with the pension age, the increase in life expectancy, the management methodologies of regulation and adjustment mechanisms of contributions related to the dynamic of return rate, together with other variables concerning pension parameters (age, indexing, valorisation of contributions, contributory supplements, etc.). These factors are all closely connected with the structural demographic changes, the dynamics of economy, the economic structure and the labour market. In this regard, MoF expressed its specific interest in focusing on three European pension systems, identified as Sweden, Italy and Poland, which, during the latest twenty years, experimented featured and radical reform mechanisms. In this section there will be a synergy with Component 1 (this synergy is foreseen in the Grant application form), to integrate and consequently manage the various elaborations.

Additionally, the analysis regarding the models and actuarial methodologies for the analysis of the financial stability and adequacy of old-age insurance have been grouped under one Topic.

The above mentioned topic grouping allowed the introduction of a specific topic, identified by MoF as one of the main priorities, which is the informal economy, considering its relationship with the basic pension system and its aspects regarding contribution evasion.

Finally the section on the actuarial systems of social insurance has been better defined in Topic 2.2.1

After this modification the number of the topics, has been fixed at eleven.

After an in depth analysis in relation to the above mentioned needs, in order to better fit the demand of the MoF, topics and specific subtopics have been revised and, where necessary, redefined.

Below is the table showing the proposed sections.

Table 6 - Topics to be considered, Component 2

Result 6: The capacity of MoF financial management and supervision of central and local model of social security system and the extension of social security system coverage are enhanced, in particular in the
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fields of division of expenditure responsibilities, mid -terms budgeting of fund, and performance assessment model.	
2.1.1	Division of decision power and expenditure responsibilities on social security between central and local government
2.1.2	Social security coverage on informal employment: methodologies and tools of analysis and management
2.1.3	Fiscal policies in support to social security, leverage among different financial sources and efficiency of fund use
2.1.4	Mid-term budgeting of social security
2.1.5	Models for evaluating effects of social security policy implementation
Result 7: Enhance the top level design ability in the basic pension insurance; establish actuarial analysis models for basic pension insurance reform.	
2.2.1	Nominal personal account reform in the basic pension insurance system
2.2.2	Models and Methodologies for the Social and Economic sustainability analysis in social protection system
2.2.3	Methodologies and Actuarial Models for pension insurance
Result 8: The capacity of the MoF in the management of social insurance funds, focusing on fiscal support budgeting, account system, investment techniques and adjustment mechanisms for pension benefits is strengthened.	
2.3.1	Budgeting of social security expenditures and fund management
2.3.2	Investment strategies of social funds and risk control methodologies
2.3.3	Management of basic Pension Fund

Priorities in 2015

The 2015 priorities have been defined in relation to the above mentioned points and the modification suggested by MoF. Consequently, by 2015 Component 2 expects to start four topics, two with rank1 position (starting from April) and two with rank2 position (starting from July).

The priorities identified are respectively of rank1 for the result 6, and of rank2 for result 7. In this way, the achievement of the two results will be accelerated and finalized, due to the focusing on the simultaneous start of the topics on the same result.

For the first two topics, the “situational” phase will end in July, while the “analysis” phase will start in August. For the other two topics of rank2, the first phase will end in November.

Table 7 – Topics to be considered in 2015, Component 2

Chronological Topics Starting Time in 2015 - Comp.2		
M. IV 2015 April 15		Result
2.1.1	Division of decision power and expenditure responsibilities on social security between central and local government	6
2.2.1	Nominal personal account reform in the basic pension insurance system	7
M. VII 2015 July 15		
2.1.2	Social security coverage on informal employment: methodologies and tools of analysis and management	6
2.2.2	Models and Methodologies for the Social and Economic sustainability analysis in social protection system	7

For each of the above listed topic, the subsequent sections of this document will introduce the corresponding activities to be conducted in 2015, following the overall approach of the Grant application form across Identification and Analysis phases. Where the Identification phase corresponds mainly to the review of the current situation in China and in European countries for a given topic, while the Analysis phase leads to the elaboration of adequate reform proposals taking into account the most relevant EU best practices for the same topic.

Some activities will be common to several topics (e.g. panel discussions or workshops) and be therefore considered under a separate heading, as will the activities to be conducted under the Pilot sites selected to test under real life conditions the approach to a few, particularly sensitive topics.

The annexes show the list of topics and sub-topics attached to Component 2, the overall Gant table for the project and the chart detailing 2015 proposed activities.

2.3.2.3. *Specific Activities*

Situational Analysis

As per the Grant application form (Macro-activity 0.1), the EU Resident experts will produce jointly at the inception of the project an analysis of the audience for project results, a brief diagnosis of the situation and provide the baseline data. This preparatory work will help focusing better the terms of reference for the subsequent review of retained topics.

For each of the four topics to be considered under the project of Component 2 in 2015, the project will conduct a situational analysis of the Chinese circumstances. The overall work will be conducted in full collaboration with MoF, which is the main national stakeholder for Component 2. Additionally, the work of Component 2 will be entrusted to Chinese experts identified and recruited by the project. Coherence among the various situational analysis will be organized through mid-term peer review and quality control. It is envisaged that a European expert will be fielded by the project for each series of

situational analysis, in order to ascertain that the assessment reports correspond to the level and quality of information required to allow for proper matching with the corresponding EU experience in terms of best practices.

The output of this activity will be a good knowledge of the Chinese situation related to the topic under consideration, while deliverables will be situation diagnosis and baseline, and the assessment reports in English documenting the findings and conclusions of the Chinese experts⁷.

Identification and Review of Possible Relevant EU Experience

The Consortium members will produce country reports presenting national respective situations in selected European countries, targeted to each topic and including best practices related to the priorities clearly expressed by the Chinese main stakeholder – see below, Cross-topic activities. Most directly involved Consortium members⁸ will produce and document Best practices reports for each of the topics selected for consideration in 2015 under Component 2 activities. The contents of best practice reports will initially be based on the list of topics and sub-topics developed by Consortium members and included in the project Aide-Mémoire. The situation analysis reports will be used to refine the contents of the reports, and make them focus on the direct demands of the Chinese stakeholders, for each of the topics under consideration.

A short-term EU expert will be recruited by the project to monitor, from China, the production of these Best practices reports, and their compatibility with the expectations and requirements of the Chinese stakeholders.

The output of this activity will be a solid documentation on EU best practices relevant for addressing Chinese social protection reform listed priorities, while deliverables will be Best practices reports for each of the topics considered under Component 2 plan of activities for 2015.

Training Conference

No training activities have been foreseen in the 2015 program, but it is useful to organize these activities before March 2016. Nevertheless, during the Identification and Analysis phases, the European Resident Expert together with the Chinese Experts could identify some kind of activities to be carried out in China, in order to allow a general knowledge sharing from European experiences and Best practices.

In this regard, in order to enhance the identification and analysis phases, in April, it will be analyzed the possibility to organize in Beijing a short training activity (1-2 days) (training conference). In this occasion, some important issues related to the identified priorities will be analyzed. This event will take place between June and September 2015.

The subject of the event is “*Nominal personal account reform in the basic pension insurance system*” which will illustrate some EU reforms’ experiences, as well as the Chinese situation. Participants of the Training Conference will be: Chinese stakeholders (representatives), University Experts (Board of the Component), and European Experts.

⁷ It is expected that each Situational analysis will be limited to some 40 pages.

⁸ For Component 2, most directly involved Consortium members are Italy (component coordinator), Belgium, Poland and Spain.

2.3.2.4. Cross-topics activities

European Country reports

As already mentioned (see the section “Identification and Review of Possible Relevant EU Experience”) European countries, members of the Consortium, will prepare country reports, documenting the situation in their respective countries concerning the reform of social protection, with emphasis on the three components included in the project. A template has been designed by the European project team to ensure coherence among the various country reports. Selected country reports dealing with the situation in countries outside the Consortium might also be produced.

The output of this activity will be a comprehensive database on relevant social protection reform in selected European countries. Deliverables will be the Country reports.

Panel discussions

The Grant application form provides (Marco-activity 2.3) that *“The Identification Phase will end with a first workshop in China aimed at sharing with the Chinese stakeholders the main outputs and issues emerged during Macro Activities 2.1 and 2.2. More specifically, the workshop will be held in order to disseminate and debate EU Best Practices identified during Macro Activity 2.2, to define a preliminary selection of models, related to the specific topic, to be introduced in China and to point out EU models to deepen.”*

Given the approach adopted to introduce topics in the plan of activities in a staggered manner, there might be a risk to have to hold as many workshops as topics considered under component 2, which would represent an excessive administrative and financial burden. Further, the expression “workshop”, which relates in the Chinese context to high-level events, might be inappropriate to sessions where the main idea is to discuss among technical specialists the contents of summary reports dealing respectively with the Chinese and the European situations.

It is therefore proposed to combine these reviews under two Panel discussion sessions, devoted one to the topics 2.1.1 and 2.2.1 (“batch one”) and one to the topics 2.1.2 and 2.2.2 (“batch two”) held respectively and tentatively in July and November 2015. These Panel discussions would gather the Chinese experts in charge of the respective situational analysis, representatives of the interested Chinese stakeholders and the Component management. Consideration will be given to the possibility of arranging a videoconference for the event, to facilitate participation by interested EU Member states specialists.

To help in the preparation of the Panel discussion sessions and in the production of subsequent panel reports – that will be used for preparing the preliminary set of topical reform proposals to follow with the corresponding requirement to deepen knowledge on most relevant European best practices – ad hoc support will be provided by 1 Chinese and 1 European expert.

The output of this activity will be a solid ground for a preliminary formulation of desirable areas for reform under the concerned topics, and a selection of European best practices worth deepening for that purpose. Deliverables will be reports on the Panel discussion sessions prepared by Chinese and European experts.

ITEM	
	Participants / Duration

Panel discussion BATCH 1 2.1.1 2.2.1	15 participants, 2 days
Panel discussion BATCH 2 2.1.2 2.2.2	15 participants, 2 days

Workshop on the Analysis Phase

The Grant application form provides (Macro-activity 2.6) that a “*workshop will be held in China aimed at debating first draft of reform proposal related to the analyzed topic within Social Protection Chinese framework.*”

This activity represents a logical continuation of the Panel discussions sessions which were just discussed – in as much as the workshop will represent a unique opportunity, after duly analyzing the Chinese situation and the most relevant EU best practices to start considering a set of draft reform proposals concerning the variety of topics already introduced under Component 2 plan of activities.

The Workshop, that would gather high level representatives of the Chinese concerned stakeholders, Chinese and European Experts and Component 2 representatives could be held over two days, and address the whole set of four topics identified as priorities for the 2015 activity plan of the project C2⁹. Provisions could be made to facilitate attendance via videoconference of interested consortium members and project leadership.

The preparation, holding and subsequent reporting of the workshop would benefit from the support of one Chinese and one EU expert recruited by the project. The results and conclusions of the Workshop would be of direct use in shaping reform proposals and designing related technical assistance activities, including development of ad hoc tools, as foreseen under the Grant application form Follow Up phase (Macro-activities 2.8 and ff.).

The Workshop has been tentatively scheduled for the month of December 2015 but could be slightly postponed if needed, especially in view of the proximity of the Discussion panel session concerning the second batch of topics.

Output of the Workshop will be a solid ground for considering further possible reform options to be finalized, and designing a program of accompanying technical assistance and technical tools development to be implemented under project auspices. The deliverables will be the Workshop report including proposals for reform options on each of the five topics to be considered in 2015, and a first set of proposed activities for a technical assistance program and the development of relevant technical tools under the framework of the project Component 2.

ITEM	
	Participants / Duration
Workshop to discuss first proposals for reform options,	35 participants, 2 days

⁹ Topics 2.1.1; 2.1.2; 2.2.1; 2.2.2

topics 2.2.2	2.1.1; 2.1.2; 2.2.1;	
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Component management

Component 2 is placed under the overall responsibility of its Coordinator, *Formez*, and will be supported also by the *Inps* with its large experience in these fields

An EU Resident expert, Mr. Stefano Patriarca, has been selected and appointed to perform the tasks pertaining to that function as per the Grant Application form. The Grant Application form also specifies that (Macro-activity 2.1) specific activities will be carried out to collect information about each topic on the current Chinese context.

- *questionnaire supplied to MoF's officers (if required by the MoF on specific priority topics) in order to deepen specific aspects of the analyzed topic;*
 - *study and desk analysis of available documentation and papers on the current framework of funds management and supervision provided by the MoF or by Component 2 Chinese Experts; all the lessons learned from the EU China Social Protection Reform Project (EUCSSP, from 2006 to 2011) and other relevant on-going projects, focused on the analyzed issue of funds management and supervision, will be taken into consideration during the desk analysis;*
 - *evaluation of methodologies and tools currently used by the MoF and identification of other relevant on-going projects, focused on the issues;*
 - *interviews with MoF's officers (or with other stakeholders suggested by Component 2 Chinese Experts and the MoF) in order to examine relevant issues in depth;*
 - *technical meetings with Component 2 Chinese Experts in order to deeply understand issues emerged from the data collected and, in general, to receive more information and clarification, if needed;*
- All the operational tools for the Situational Analysis tasks (e.g. questionnaires, outline of the interviews, etc.) will be prepared by the EU MS Staff in Europe in close collaboration with the Component 2 EU Resident Expert in China and with the Component 2 Chinese Expert under the coordination of the Component 2 Coordinator.*

The Component 2 EU Resident Expert in China will collect all the results of the Situational Analysis in an assessment report; for each topic the document will include the following aspects:

- *a general description of the current situation;*
- *the most relevant statistical data;*
- *an overview about ongoing activities and plans aimed at improving the current situation;*
- *a list of open problems/issues.*

When considering the background and qualifications required to successfully undertake these tasks, it was considered jointly by Mof and by the EU Resident expert of Component 2, that it is necessary to possess specific skills and competencies, so that will be needed more incumbents with different qualifications.

The work assigned in the Grant application form to the so-called Chinese expert will be therefore divided among more Chinese experts with different level of experience in different fields. Mof identified three Chinese expert, Seniors professors in Chinese Universities as a board to support work in Component 2 both involved directly in the action both identifying specific expert to be involve in close coordination with Mof and EU C2 RE. Nevertheless it is useful to identify one Main Chinese expert acting in close cooperation with and under supervision of the EU Resident expert of Component 2, cooperating on a daily basis with the MOF liaison officer and other Chinese stakeholders public staff for the planning, design, preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of activities conducted within the framework of the project of Component 2 (macro-activities 2.1 to 2.12 to be implemented over project duration). Under the same conditions, the Expert contributes to the project horizontal macro-activities and liaises as relevant with activities conducted under the project components C1 and C3. He also interacts with the Chinese stakeholders of the project and appraises the EU Resident experts for C2 as well as, as appropriate, the other experts and EU MS public sector staff concerned of his findings and suggestions related to the expectations of the said stakeholders.

In his work the EU C2 Resident expert will be supported by an assistant member of the office staff (office staff have been reorganized to be more efficient for the project) with a good Chinese and English knowledge for smooth communication with Chinese beneficiaries mainly Mof and Chinese short-term experts. The assistant (member of the office staff) will support EU C2 RE activities to manage national experts to conduct research under project activities, and to define corresponding terms of reference, liaise with selected experts performing their task, provides peer review, comments and suggest amendments for the finalization of research work, contributes to the overall planning of project activities conducted within the framework of C2 component of the project (macro-activities 3.1 to 3.12 to be implemented over project duration). The assistant will also directly conduct limited research work compatible with his/her availability and competences. He/she notably will contribute as far as Component 2 is concerned to the establishment of the brief diagnosis of the situation and the definition of the baseline data called for under project Macro-activity 0.1.

The Chinese main expert (Research), acting in close cooperation with MoF and board of the professor involved in the project, and under supervision of the EU C2 Resident expert, and will support activities to the selection of national experts to conduct research under project activities, and to define corresponding terms of reference, liaises with selected experts performing their task, provides peer review, comments and suggested amendments for the finalization of research work, contributes to the overall planning of project activities conducted within the framework of C2 component of the project (macro-activities 2.1 to 2.12 to be implemented over project duration).

The Expert also directly conducts limited research work compatible with her availability and competences.

The output corresponding to the proper functioning of Component 2 management by the team of European and Chinese experts, working in close collaboration with their MoF counterparts is the smooth design, implementation and monitoring of project activities.

Deliverables are the reports called according to the requirements of the Grant application form.

2.3.2.5. *Pilot Sites*

The Grant application form specifies (Macro-activity 2.1) that *“If pilot application is requested by the MoF, the Situational Analysis will consider peculiarities of pilot sites identified during the Inception Macro Activity (see Macro Activity 0.1 – Inception), according to MoF’s indication. Specific drivers for the selection of the pilot sites will be defined and shared with the Component 2 Chinese Expert and the MoF. If the MoF prefers to identify the pilot sites in a later stage rather than the Inception Macro Activity, the Situational Analysis will be carried out at a general country level.”*

Consultations about this issue will be done in April with MoF.

Provisions will be made under the project budget and detailed work plans to facilitate visit to the proposed pilot sites by relevant Chinese and European experts, in order to fully accommodate the specificities and requirements of these locations in the situation analysis and subsequent documents to be produced under the project framework for Component 2.

2.3.2.6. Detailed Gantt

Component 2 - Overall Plan of Activities - March 2015 - February 2016																
ID	DESCRIPTION	Y 1														
		S 1							S 2							Y 2
		M 1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12	M 13	M 14	M 15
		XII 14	I 15	II 15	III 15	IV 15	V 15	VI 15	VII 15	VIII 15	IX 15	X 15	XI 15	XII 15	I 16	II 16
1	Identification Phase															
2.0	Preparation of brief diagnosis, establish baseline data, analysis audience of project results (macro-activity 0.1)															
2.1.	Situational Analysis															
2.1.1	In-depth analysis on the topics 2.1.1; 2.2.1;															
2.1.2	In-depth analysis on the topic 2.1.2 2.2.2															
2.1.3	Preparation of the Situational Analysis Reports for topics 2.1.1 2.2.1															
2.1.4	Preparation of the Situational Analysis Reports for topics 2.1.1 2.2.2															
2.2	Identification and review of possible relevant EU experience															
2.2.1	Preparation of General Country Reports (cross topics)															
2.2.2	Involvement of other EU Countries in the research on EU Best Practice on the specific sub-topics															

ID	DESCRIPTION	Y 1												Y 2		
		S 1						S 2						S 1		
		M 1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12	M 13	M 14	M 15
		XII 14	I 15	II 15	III 15	IV 15	V 15	VI 15	VII 15	VIII 15	IX 15	X 15	XI 15	XII 15	I 16	II 16
2.2.3	Research and preparation of reports on other EU Countries Best Practices on the specific sub-topics															
2.3	Panel discussions with stakeholders on the Identification Phase															
2.3.1.1	Preparation of Panel discussion contents on possible EU Best Practices to apply in China about the specific topics 2.1.1 2.2.1															
2.3.1.2	Preparation of Panel discussion contents on possible EU Best Practices to apply in China about the specific topics 2.1.2 2.2.2															
2.3.2	Identification and travels organisation of EU Expert on the topics included in Panel discussion															
2.3.3	Meetings to share and discuss the EU Best Practices and to select models to be possibly applied in China															
2.3.4	Preparation of reports with the Panel discussion results and sharing with the Main Chinese stakeholders															
Analysis Phase																
2.4	Specific analysis of relevant EU experience															
2.4.1	Technical feasibility of EU MS Best Practices to be introduced in China and preliminary reform proposals about the specific topics 2.1.1 2.2.1															
2.4.2	Technical feasibility of EU MS Best Practices to be introduced in China and preliminary reform proposals about the specific topics 2.1.2 2.2.2															
2.4.3	Definition of a first draft of reform proposal															

ID	DESCRIPTION	Y 1														Y 2	
		S 1							S 2							S 1	
		M 1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12	M13	M14	M15	
		XII 14	I 15	II 15	III 15	IV 15	V 15	VI 15	VII 15	VIII 15	IX 15	X 15	XI 15	XII 15	I 16	II 16	
2.6	Worshop with stakeholders on the Analysis Phase																
2.6.1	Preparation of Workshop contents on proposals about the specific topics																
2.6.2	Identification and travel organisation of EU Experts on the topics included in Workshop																
2.6.3	Meeting for discussing the contents previously identified on the on concrete final proposals																
2.6.4	Workshop closing event																
2.6.5	Preparation of a report with the Workshop results and sharing with the Main Chinese stakeholders																
2.7	Elaboration of reform proposals																
2.7.1	Final identification of reform proposals on topics 2.1.1 2.2.1																
2.7.2	Final identification of reform proposals on topics 2.1.2 2.2.2																
2.7.3	Definition of a detailed plan activities for testing the proposals locally (if requested) and for the following stages																
2.7.4	Preparation of the final reform proposal document and sharing with the Main Chinese stakeholders																

2.3.2.7. Topics and Sub-Topics

During the first months of the project the Resident Experts have proceeded to share and detail more precisely the meaning of the different topics for each result identifying some sub-topics through which the same topics can be articulated. The Resident Experts along with the members of the Consortium shared a variation that has been adjusted on the basis of all the feedbacks received from the Chinese Beneficiaries.

List of topics and subtopics		
N	TOPICS	SUBTOPICS
Result 6: The capacity of MoF financial management and supervision of central and local model of social security system and the extension of social security system coverage are enhanced, in particular in the fields of division of expenditure responsibilities, mid-terms budgeting of fund, and performance assessment model.		
2.1.1	Division of decision power and expenditure responsibilities on social security between central and local government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Power division in social security between central and local government; policy on transfer payment from central to local government: governance system. · Model and policy of state coordination on some of the social security projects. · Management forms at national/local level of assistance and social security policy(income support/active working policies, assistance benefits, law for disable people, medical insurance) · Governance models applied to social territorial services(with focus on medical insurance, aged and child care, disable people).
2.1.2	Social security coverage on informal employment: methodologies and tools of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Practices and risks for achieving better social security coverage on informal employment. · Incentive and restraint mechanism of social insurance payment by informal employment to extend coverage of basic social security.

	analysis and management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial subsidy forms and budgeting technologies for extending social security coverage on informal employment.
2.1.3	Fiscal policies in support to social security, leverage among different financial sources and efficiency of fund use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actuarial model of financial subsidies and budget management system. Fiscal policies in support to pension system Models for keeping static and dynamic balance of social security projects by financial subsidies.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selection models of payment and financial subsidies.
2.1.4	Mid-term budgeting of social security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management of mid-term budgeting; methodology and procedure for social security expenditure budgeting under public balance.
2.1.5	Models for evaluating effects of social security policy implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tools, models and reports applied to evaluation of social security expenditure's effects at different government levels. Establishing database of the evaluation of social security policy's effects.
Result 7: Enhance the top level design ability in the basic pension insurance; establish actuarial analysis models for basic pension insurance reform.		
2.2.1	Nominal personal account reform in the basic pension insurance system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reform scheme of Nominal Personal Account and computing method of individual benefits. Feasibility, sustainability and implementation scheme of reform policies. Model for assessing transformation costs and arrangement of sources of funds. Models and Indicators to assess individual benefits adequacy (e.g. pay system vs. contribution-based system).
2.2.2	Models and Methodologies for the Social and Economic sustainability analysis in social protection system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practices and Experiences of actuary of social insurance. Models for carrying out analysis and forecasting basic pension and medical insurance for interim and long-term balance to analyze social and economic sustainability.

2.2.3	Methodologies and Actuarial Models for pension insurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Models and actuarial methodologies for pension accounting and the evaluation of the dynamics of pension insurance expenditures. · Methodologies and models for the prevision of the financial dynamics of the expenditures for the pension insurance, aimed at the realization of the preventive annual and multi-year balances of the pension funds.
Result 8: The capacity of the MoF in the management of social insurance funds, focusing on fiscal support budgeting, account system, investment techniques and adjustment mechanisms for pension benefits is strengthened.		
2.3.1	Budgeting of social security expenditures and fund management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Institutional design for the achievement of fiscal balance of funds and general fiscal balance · Tools for identifying and managing frauds. · Models and indicators for analyzing the financial balance of social security funds · Models for the analysis and management of the financial risk; techniques for prevention and mitigation of risks · Budgeting of social security expenditure and account system of funds management
2.3.2	Investment strategies of social funds and risk control methodologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Strategies of Investment of Social Insurance Fund · Management frame of the investment of social insurance fund · Rick control models and management methods of investment of social insurance
2.3.3	Management of basic Pension Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Adjustment mechanism of pension benefits and analysis models for its influence on finance · Institutional setting and system frame of the management of basic pension insurance fund. · Enhance local financial department staff's capacity on risk control and management of basic pension insurance fund.

2.3.2.8. *Examples of Best Practices from the Consortium*

Based on the topics and sub-topics identified they were provided by the members of the Consortium some examples of best practices that can be implemented in China.

Topics		Italy	Belgium	Spain
Result 6: The capacity of MoF financial management and supervision of central and local model of social security system and the extension of social security system coverage are enhanced, in particular in the fields of division of expenditure responsibilities, mid -terms budgeting of fund, and performance assessment model.				
2.1.1	Division of decision power and expenditure responsibilities on social security between central and local government	Governance experiences at State/Regional levels as far as health, social safety nets and active employment policies are concerned. Experiences of performance evaluation at State level such as the multi-year indicators, used to assess the level of the health social Assistance Essential services (LEA) offered by the Regions. Practices for the evaluation of the performances of local services offered by the regional health and social services in order to prevent disparities and provide a national benchmark scenario		
2.1.2	Social security coverage on informal employment: methodologies and tools of analysis and management	Italian legislation and bargaining for the management of informal employment Pensions Models of the last years managed to incentive personal interest in contribution Practices to sustain particular categories and period on contribution – “contribute figurative e forfezzari,” standard minimum references in legislation		
2.1.3	Fiscal policies in support to social security, leverage among different financial sources and efficiency of fund use	Italian accounting and financing systems regarding assistances and non assistances expenses Model of financing social security – fiscal support after law 1989		
2.1.4	Mid-term budgeting of social security	Methodologies of public planning used by the Italian Ministry of Economic and Finance to adopt annual Reform plan, stability law, spending review and by the State General Accounting Department, by the Parliamentary Budgetary Office		
2.1.5	Models for evaluating effects of social security policy implementation	Indicators for the evaluation of the national situation within the policies of European social cohesiveness (OMC methodologies, and indicators for the evaluation of child and elderly care) System indicators applied by the State General Accounting Dept., by the Italian National Statistical Institute and by the Italian Ministry of Economic and Finance to evaluate the EU Structural Funds impact. Practices of EU indicators applied to social and capacity building projects, Indicators for measurable objectives for essential services also to favor women's participation in the labor market. Identified and applied Indicators to the Activity and Cohesion Plan (PAC) for child and elderly care services provided by Local Municipalities. Practices of the National Monitoring System provided by the National Agency for Regional Services (AGENAS), Eurostat indicator system		

Topics		Italy	Belgium	Spain
Result 6: The capacity of MoF financial management and supervision of central and local model of social security system and the extension of social security system coverage are enhanced, in particular in the fields of division of expenditure responsibilities, mid -terms budgeting of fund, and performance assessment model.				
2.1.1	Division of decision power and expenditure responsibilities on social security between central and local government	Governance experiences at State/Regional levels as far as health, social safety nets and active employment policies are concerned. Experiences of performance evaluation at State level such as the multi-year indicators, used to assess the level of the health social Assistance Essential services (LEA) offered by the Regions. Practices for the evaluation of the performances of local services offered by the regional health and social services in order to prevent disparities and provide a national benchmark scenario		
2.1.2	Social security coverage on informal employment: methodologies and tools of analysis and management	Italian legislation and bargaining for the management of informal employment Pensions Models of the last years managed to incentive personal interest in contribution Practices to sustain particular categories and period on contribution – “contribute figurative e forfettari, “ standard minimum references in legislation		
2.1.3	Fiscal policies in support to social security, leverage among different financial sources and efficiency of fund use	Italian accounting and financing systems regarding assistances and non assistances expenses Model of financing social security – fiscal support after law 1989		
2.1.4	Mid-term budgeting of social security	Methodologies of public planning used by the Italian Ministry of Economic and Finance to adopt annual Reform plan, stability law, spending review and by the State General Accounting Department, by the Parliamentary Budgetary Office		

2.1.5	Models for evaluating effects of social security policy implementation	<p>Indicators for the evaluation of the national situation within the policies of European social cohesiveness (OMC methodologies, and indicators for the evaluation of child and elderly care)</p> <p>System indicators applied by the State General Accounting Dept., by the Italian National Statistical Institute and by the Italian Ministry of Economic and Finance to evaluate the EU Structural Funds impact.</p> <p>Practices of EU indicators applied to social and capacity building projects, Indicators for measurable objectives for essential services also to favor women's participation in the labor market.</p> <p>Identified and applied Indicators to the Activity and Cohesion Plan (PAC) for child and elderly care services provided by Local Municipalities.</p> <p>Practices of the National Monitoring System provided by the National Agency for Regional Services (AGENAS), Eurostat indicator system</p>		
Result 7: Enhance the top level design ability in the basic pension insurance; establish actuarial analysis models for basic pension insurance reform.				
2.2.1	Nominal personal account reform in the basic pension insurance system	<p>1995 2014 Pension reform in Italy, Sweden, Poland.</p> <p>The experience of defining public balances carried out by the Italian Ministry of Economic and Finance</p> <p>Inps management system of personal account</p>		
2.2.2	Models and Methodologies for the Social and Economic sustainability analysis in social protection system	<p>Models and methodologies applied in Europe and by SPC, AWG, EPC</p> <p>In Italy by the National Social Insurance Institute (INPS), and by the State General Accounting Dept</p>		
2.2.3	Methodologies and Actuarial Models for pension insurance	Models and methodologies applied by the National Social Insurance Institute (INPS), by the State General Accounting Dept		

Result 8: The capacity of the MoF in the management of social insurance funds, focusing on fiscal support budgeting, account system, investment techniques and adjustment mechanisms for pension benefits is strengthened.				
2.3.1	Budgeting of social security expenditures and fund management	Methodologies of public planning used by the Italian Ministry of Economic and Finance to adopt annual Reform plan, stability law, spending review and by the State General Accounting Department, by the Parliamentary Budgetary Office; European institutions : AWG group, Social Protection Committee, Employment committee		
2.3.2	Investment strategies of social funds and risk control methodologies	The Italian experience of public and private second pillar funds management and ccddpp INPS methodology to forecast and manage fraud		
2.3.3	Management of basic Pension Fund	Inps system to manage Funds		

2.3.3. Component 3

2.3.3.1. Overall objective and Expected results

The overall scope of the EU-CHINA SPRP project is to further develop social equity and inclusiveness of economic development throughout Chinese society. Within the project, Component 3 has to specifically deal with the improving of legal framework and policy for social assistance in collaboration with the Ministry of Civil Affairs (MoCA) – which is the national agency responsible for national policy within social assistance in China.

Among the eleven results the project is expected to achieve, three are explicitly assigned to its Component 3, namely:

- 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.

Table 8 - Expected results, Component 3

R9	The capacity of the MoCA for promulgating and enforcing the Social Assistance Law and the regulations on rural and urban minimum standards of living are strengthened; the skills of local officials in policy transmission and implementation are upgraded.
R10	The legal frameworks on a) formulation of unified standards for the estimation and calculation of social assistance benefits, b) recognition of social assistance target groups and c) identification of low-income families are consolidated.
R11	Efforts of the MoCA in improved care for poor rural people and disabled people are strengthened, and public information and transparency of social assistance policies are raised at provincial level.

For each of the project expected results, specific topics were identified during the phase of elaboration of the Grant Application Form. Eleven regrouped topics are considered as particularly relevant under the results assigned to Component 3 of the project, as shown in Table 9 below.

Table 9 - Topics to be considered, Component 3

Result	#	Topic
R9	3.1.1	Legal framework on Social Assistance
	3.1.2	Governance framework for Social Assistance administration and management process
	3.1.3	Processes and activities of policy transmission and implementation carried out at central and local level of Social Assistance
	3.1.4	Monitoring and evaluation of Social Assistance schemes

R10	3.2.1	Experiences on unified standards for calculation of Social Assistance benefits
	3.2.2	Identification of Social Assistance target groups
	3.2.3	Overlapping and “cliff” effect management and policy framework
	3.2.4	Procedures and methods for requirement verification within Social Assistance system at central, local, urban and rural level
R11	3.3.1	Social Assistance specific groups - services for children, elderly, people with disabilities, with a special focus on poor rural people
	3.3.2	Social Assistance services for poor people and families – service delivery approach
	3.3.3	Communication techniques and channels of public information on Social Assistance policy

Topics were defined as areas of work for which the European experience might, under existing and prospective specific Chinese circumstances, allow significant progress to be made towards achieving the related results.

2.3.3.2. *Topics to be covered*

Among the 14 topics initially attached to Component 3 in the Grant Application form, it was considered that some of them have been too detailed. They were renamed and combined just to reflect the whole issue in one topic properly.

During the consultation process with MoCA the topics have been reduced to 11 for the whole Component 3.

The most critical and immediate issue for which support from the project is expected by MoCA and other Chinese stakeholders is contributing to the elaboration of the legal framework of Social Assistance. This is to be pursued under topic 3.1.1. - Legal framework on Social Assistance – which is contributing to the whole spectrum of the Component 3. Therefore it will be done with maximum priority to be completed by three Chinese short-term senior experts: Ms Grace Guo, Mr Cao Feng and Ms Fanhua Kong. Ms Grace Guo was contributing to the project since the work on grant application started. The focus of the topic is to make a contribution through a solid analysis and evaluation of existing regulations on Social Assistance in China. Under that topic are identified 5 subtopics which will allow to give a comprehensive overview of the Social Assistance legal provisions as they are existing since some years in China.

Under result 10 topic 3.2.1 (and three subtopics) there is foreseen to carry out the set of methods of calculations on minimum livelihood guarantee standards. One of the key aspects to be analysed with one of the subtopics will be the Social Assistance criteria and assessments methods for the Social Assistance beneficiaries. Situation analysis should also give a possibility to define some developments and challenges for the Social Assistance benefits in general.

The result 11 and the topic foreseen to be done in 2015 is focusing on specific groups existing within Social Assistance in China (children, elderly, people with disabilities) with a special focus on poor rural

people. It will be done under the four subtopics propose as there is a need to analyse the methods of defining special groups and services offered for them. Within the action under topic 3.3.1 it is also foreseen to evaluate a dedicated Social Assistance programs.

The remaining 8 topics to be considered under Component 3 of the project would be introduced in the years 2016 and 2017 – subject of course to their continued relevance, and to the constant monitoring of the evolving socio-economic situation, as well as Government priorities in terms of social assistance system.

While first topic retained for review in 2015 under the project Component 3 deserve priority consideration, it was considered that it will start in April (topic 3.1.1.) and the other two in July (topics 3.2.1 and 3.3.1) this year, as shown in table 10 below.

Table 10 – Topics to be considered in 2015, Component 3

ID	DESCRIPTION	R.	DATE STARTS
1	Component 3 - Improving of legal framework and policy for social assistance		
3.1.1	Legal framework on Social Assistance	9	Apr 2015
3.2.1	Experiences on unified standards for calculation of Social Assistance benefits	10	Jul 2015
3.3.1	Social Assistance specific groups - services for children, elderly, people with disabilities, with a special focus on poor rural people	11	Jul 2015

For each of the above listed topic, the subsequent sections of this document will introduce the corresponding activities to be conducted in 2015 following the overall approach in the Grant application form across Identification and Analysis phases – Identification phase corresponding mainly to the review of the current situation in China and in European countries for a given topic, while the Analysis phase leads to the elaboration of adequate reform proposals taking into account the most relevant EU best practices for the same topic.

Some activities will be common to several topics (e.g. panel discussions or workshops) and be therefore considered under a separate heading. Pilot sites will be decided by MoCA as soon as the situation analysis under different topics will be delivered.

2.3.3.3. *Specific Activities*

Situational Analysis

As per the Grant application form (Macro-activity 0.1), the EU Resident experts will produce jointly at the inception of the project an analysis of the audience for project results, a brief diagnosis of the situation and provide the baseline data. This preparatory work will help focusing better the terms of reference for the subsequent review of retained topics.

For each of the three topics to be considered under the project Component 3 in 2015, the project will conduct a situational analysis of the Chinese circumstances. This task will be performed under the responsibility of the C3 EU resident expert, assisted by a main Chinese short-term expert recruited by the project. Works will be conducted in full collaboration with MoCA, which is the main national

stakeholder for Component 3. Coherence among the various situational analysis will be organized through mid-term peer review and quality control conducted via a Chinese short-term experts working in close collaboration with the EU Resident expert and MoCA. It is envisaged that a European expert will be fielded by the project for each batch of situational analysis, in order to ascertain that the assessment reports correspond to the level and quality of information required to allow for proper matching with the corresponding EU experience in terms of best practices.

The output of this activity will be a good knowledge of the Chinese situation related to the topic under consideration, while deliverables will be situation diagnosis and baseline, and the assessment reports in English documenting the findings and conclusions of the Chinese experts¹⁰.

Identification and Review of Possible Relevant EU Experience

Consortium members will produce country reports¹¹ presenting national respective situations in selected European countries – see below, Cross-topic activities - targeted to each topic and related to priorities expressed by the main Chinese stakeholders. Most directly involved Consortium members¹² therefore will prepare and document Best practices reports for each of the topics selected for consideration in 2015 under Component 3 activities. The contents of best practice reports will initially be based on the list of topics and sub-topics developed by Consortium members and included in the project Aide-Mémoire. The situation analysis reports will be used to refine the contents of the reports, and make them focus on the direct preoccupations of the Chinese stakeholders, for each of the topics under consideration.

In compiling the best practices contributions from EU Member states, special attention will be paid to Experiences and lessons learned of adjusting social assistance policies to adapt to economic crisis in EU Countries.

A short-term EU expert will be recruited by the project to monitor, from China, the production of these Best practices reports, and their compatibility with the expectations and requirements of the Chinese stakeholders.

The output of this activity will be a solid documentation on EU best practices relevant for addressing Chinese social protection reform listed priorities, while deliverables will be Best practices reports for each of the topics considered under Component 3 plan of activities for 2015, including a special contribution on experiences and lessons learned in addressing economic crisis.

Training / Study assignments to EU countries

For the year 2015 within Component 3 study visit to the EU within the EU-CHINA SPRP will be held in Poland and Czech Republic with the participation of other Consortium Members contributing to the Component 3 in September, 2015. The Study visits will allowed Chinese officials to have workshop sessions as well the practical sightseeing activities to the Social Assistance institutions.

¹⁰ It is expected that each Situational analysis will be limited to some 40 pages.

¹¹ If possible partly available for the First High Level Event on Social Assistance in September, 2015.

¹² For Component 3, most directly involved Consortium members are Poland (component coordinator), Belgium, Italy, Romania, the Czech Republic.

Study Visit - topic: Social assistance: legal framework; minimum standards of living; specific groups	Participants / Duration
Study visit to Poland and the Czech Republic – Topics 3.1.1; 3.2.1; 3.3.1	10 participants, 8 days

2.3.3.4. Cross-topics activities

European Country reports

As already mentioned (see the section “Identification and Review of Possible Relevant EU Experience”) European countries, members of the Consortium, will prepare country reports documenting the situation in their respective countries concerning the reform of social protection, with emphasis on the three components included in the project. A template has been designed by the European project team to ensure coherence among the various country reports. Selected country reports dealing with the situation in countries outside the Consortium might also be produced.

The output of this activity will be a comprehensive database on relevant social protection reform in selected European countries. Deliverables will be the Country reports.

There are no specific expert human resources attached to this activity. See however under 3.2 above (Identification and review of possible relevant EU experience)

Panel discussions

The Grant application form provides (Marco-activity 1.3) that *“The Identification Phase will end with a first workshop in China aimed at sharing with the Chinese stakeholders the main outputs and issues emerged during Macro Activities 1.1 and 1.2. More specifically, the workshop will be held in order to disseminate and debate EU Best Practices identified during Macro Activity 1.2, to define a preliminary selection of models, related to the specific topic, to be introduced in China and to point out EU models to deepen.”*

Given the approach adopted to introduce topics in the plan of activities in a staggered manner, there might be a risk to have to hold as many workshops as topics considered under Component 3, which would represent an excessive administrative and financial burden. Further, the expression “workshop”, which relates in the Chinese context to high-level events, might be inappropriate to sessions where the main idea is to discuss among technical specialists the contents of summary reports dealing respectively with the Chinese and the European situations.

It is therefore proposed to combine these reviews under two Panel discussions sessions, devoted one to topic 3.1.1 (“batch one”) and one to topics 3.2.1 and 3.3.1 (“batch two”) held respectively and tentatively in July and November 2015. These Panel discussions would gather the Chinese experts in charge of the respective situational analysis, representatives of the interested Chinese stakeholders and the Component management. Consideration will be given to the possibility of arranging videoconference for the event, to facilitate participation by interested EU Member states specialists.

To help in the preparation of the Panel discussions sessions and in the production of subsequent panel reports – that will be used for preparing the preliminary set of topical reform proposals to follow with the corresponding requirement to deepen knowledge on most relevant European best practices – ad hoc support will be provided by 1 Chinese and 1 European expert.

The output of this activity will be a solid ground for a preliminary formulation of desirable areas for reform under the concerned topics, and a selection of European best practices worth deepening for that purpose. Deliverables will be reports on the Panel discussion sessions prepared by Chinese and European experts.

ITEM	
	Participants / Duration
Panel discussion BATCH 1/ Topics 3.1.1;	15 participants, 2 days
Panel discussion BATCH 2/ Topics 3.2.1.; 3.3.1.	15 participants, 2 days

Workshop on the Analysis Phase

The Grant application form provides (Macro-activity 3.6) that a “*workshop will be held in China aimed at debating first draft of reform proposal related to the analyzed topic within Social Assistance Chinese framework.*”

This activity represents a logical continuation of the Panel discussions sessions which were just discussed – in as much as the workshop will represent a unique opportunity, after duly analyzing the Chinese situation and the most relevant EU best practices, to start considering a set of draft reform proposals concerning the variety of topics already introduced under Component 3 plan of activities.

The Workshop, that would gather high level representatives of the Chinese concerned stakeholders, Chinese and European Experts and Component 3 representatives could be held over two days, and address the whole set of three topics identified as priorities for the 2015 activity plan of the project C3¹³. Provisions could be made to facilitate attendance via videoconference of interested consortium members and project leadership.

The preparation, holding and subsequent reporting of the workshop would benefit from the support of 1 Chinese and 1 EU expert recruited by the project. The results and conclusions of the Workshop would be of direct use in shaping reform proposals and designing related technical assistance activities, including development of ad hoc tools, as foreseen under the Grant application form Follow Up phase (Macro-activities 3.8 and ff.).

The Workshop has been tentatively scheduled for the month of December 2015 but could be slightly postponed if needed, especially in view of the proximity of the Discussion panel session concerning the second batch of topics.

Output of the Workshop will be a solid ground for considering further possible reform options to be finalised, and designing a program of accompanying technical assistance and technical tools

¹³ Topics 3.1.1; 3.2.1 and 3.3.1

development to be implemented under project auspices. The deliverables will be the Workshop report including proposals for reform options on each of the five topics to be considered in 2015, and a first set of proposed activities for a technical assistance program and the development of relevant technical tools under the framework of the project Component 3.

ITEM	
	Participants / Duration
Workshop to discuss first proposals for reform options, topics 3.1.1;3.2.1; and 3.3.1	35 participants, 2 days

Component management

Component 3 is placed under the overall responsibility of its Coordinator, the Ministry of Labour and Policy of Poland.

An EU Resident expert, Ms Marzena Breza, has been selected and appointed to perform the tasks pertaining to that function as per the Grant Application form. The Grant Application form also specifies that (Macro-activity 1.1) *“All these activities will be carried out by the Component 3 EU Resident Expert in China, with the support of the Component 3 Chinese Expert and in strong collaboration with MoCA’s officers; the availability and the cooperation from Chinese officers will be essential for the success of this Macro-Activity and for the achievement of the expected results for Component 3. It’s important to highlight that the presence of the Component 3 Chinese Expert will help to reduce the time in understanding the China’s current situation providing support to EU Experts.”*

When considering the background and qualifications required to successfully undertake these tasks, it was considered jointly by MoCA and by the EU Resident expert for Component 3 that the Chinese short-term experts have to have a solid knowledge of the Social Assistance system in China, including understanding of the existing regulations and mechanism as well the challenges for the next years also from the perspective of some trends China is now facing (population ageing, economic growth, issues of rural and urban inhabitants, etc.)

The work assigned in the Grant application form to the so-called Chinese expert will be provided in close cooperation with and under supervision of the EU C3 Resident expert liaises on a daily basis with the MoCA liaison officer and other Chinese stakeholders public staff for the planning, design, preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of activities conducted within the framework of C3 component of the project (macro-activities 3.1 to 3.12 to be implemented over project duration). Under the same conditions, the Expert contributes to the project horizontal macro-activities and liaises as relevant with activities conducted under the project components C1 and C2. He also interacts with the Chinese stakeholders of the project and appraises the EU Resident experts for C3 as well as, as appropriate, the other experts and EU MS public sector staff concerned of his findings and suggestions related to the expectations of the said stakeholders.

In her work the EU C3 Resident expert will be supported by a research assistant with a good Chinese and English knowledge for smooth communication with Chinese beneficiaries mainly MoCA and Chinese short-term experts. The research assistant (member of the office staff) will contribute to the selection of national experts to conduct research under project activities, propose corresponding terms

of reference, liaise with selected experts performing their task, provides peer review, comments and suggest amendments for the finalization of research work, contributes to the overall planning of project activities conducted within the framework of C3 component of the project (macro-activities 3.1 to 3.12 to be implemented over project duration). The research assistant will also directly conduct limited research work compatible with his/her availability and competences. He/she notably will contribute as far as Component 3 is concerned to the establishment of the brief diagnosis of the situation and the definition of the baseline data called for under project Macro-activity 0.1.

During the consultation process on the Chinese senior experts on Social Assistance it became evident that there was a need for supporting the potential group of Chinese short-term experts with interpretation and translation. Giving the priority reorganized to the complex identification analysis of the Chinese situation in the field of Social Assistance there is a need to dedicate most probably more interpretation and translation support within Component 3 than to the other Components.

The output corresponding to the proper functioning of Component 3 management by the team of European and Chinese experts working in close collaboration with their MoCA counterparts is the smooth design, implementation and monitoring of project activities.

Deliverables are the reports called for according to the requirements of the Grant application form.

2.3.3.5. *Pilot Sites*

The Grant application form specifies (Macro-activity 3.11) that “If requested by MoCA, in order to achieve the expected results (R9, R10 and R11) pilot projects (approximately three pilots within the whole project) could be carried out on specific topics selected by the MoCA. The main aim of the pilot projects is the introduction of new practices and models in China proposed by the Consortium and shared with the MoCA and other Stakeholders in order to improve the legal framework and the policy enforcement for Social Assistance.

The **pilots sites** will be **identified at the earliest stage of the project** (Macro Activity 01. – Inception) in accordance with MoCA’s instructions and on the basis of the criteria shared with the MoCA.”

After some consultations with MoCA there was a conclusion that defining of the pilot sites will be done on a later stages just to use that project activity in an effective way. For year 2015 there are non-pilot sites foreseen.

2.3.3.6. *First High Level Event on Social Assistance*

During the multi-aspects discussion between Consortium members , Project Leader and MoCA with a participation of NDRC, it was agreed than First High Level Event mainly Coordinator of Component of Social Assistance of the EU-CHINA SPRP will be held in September 2015 in Beijing. There is foreseen a high level delegation from MoCA, some other officials from the EU-CHINA SPRP Chinese beneficiaries and Consortium members.

There is also a strong interest to take the that after having the High Level Event on Social Assistance in Beijing the MoCA officials will take part to a study visit to the Social Assistance institutions in Poland

and Czech Republic as one of the EU-CHINA SPRP partner with the participation of other Consortium members contributing to the Component 3.

The High Level Event on Social Assistance as it is a part of the EU-CHINA SPRP will be coorganised together by MoCA, EU-CHINA SPRP Office in Beijing, the Component 3 Coordinator, EU RE in Beijing with a very close cooperation with Project Leader and the Secretariat of the project due to the logistical (including the issues of interpretation and translation) and financial aspects of the organization process.

2.3.3.7. Detailed Gantt

Component 3 - Overall Plan of Activities - March 2015 - February 2016																	
ID	DESCRIPTION		Y 1												Y 2		
			S 1						S 2						S 1		
			M 1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12	M 13	M 14	M 15
			XII 14	I 15	II 15	III 15	IV 15	V 15	VI 15	VII 15	VIII 15	IX 15	X 15	XI 15	XII 15	I 16	II 16
	Identification Phase																
3.0	Preparation of brief diagnosis, establish baseline data, analysis audience of project results (macro-activity 0.1)																
3.1.	Situational Analysis																
3.1.1	In-depth analysis on the topics 3.1.1;																
3.1.2	In-depth analysis on the topic 3.2.1; 3.3.1																
3.1.3	Preparation of the Situational Analysis Reports for topics 3.1.1;																
3.1.4	Preparation of the Situational Analysis Reports for topics 3.2.1; 3.3.1																
3.2	Identification and review of possible relevant EU experience																
3.2.1	Preparation of General Country Reports (cross topics)																
3.2.2	Involvement of other EU Countries in the research on EU Best Practice on the specific sub-topics																

ID	DESCRIPTION	Y 1													Y 2	
		S 1							S 2						S 1	
		M 1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12	M 13	M 14	M 15
3.2.3	Research and preparation of reports on EU Countries Best Practices on the specific sub-topics															
3.3	Panel discussions with stakeholders on the Identification Phase															
3.3.1.1	Preparation of Panel discussion contents on possible EU Best Practices to apply in China about the specific topics 3.1.1;															
3.3.1.2	Preparation of Panel discussion contents on possible EU Best Practices to apply in China about the specific topics 3.2.1; 3.3.1															
3.3.2	Identification and travels organisation of EU Expert on the topics included in Panel discussion															
3.3.3	Meetings to share and discuss the EU Best Practices and to select models to be possibly applied in China															
3.3.4	Preparation of reports with the Panel discussion results and sharing with the Main Chinese stakeholders															
Analysis Phase																
3.4	Specific analysis of relevant EU experience															
3.4.1.1	Technical feasibility of EU MS Best Practices to be introduced in China and preliminary reform proposals about the specific topics 3.1.1															
3.4.1.2	Technical feasibility of EU MS Best Practices to be introduced in China and preliminary reform proposals about the specific topics 3.2.1; 3.3.1															
3.4.2	Definition of a first draft of reform proposal															

ID	DESCRIPTION	Y 1													Y 2	
		S 1							S 2						S 1	
		M 1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12	M 13	M 14	M 15
3.5	Training/Study Assignments to EU countries										SV					
3.6	Workshop with stakeholders on the Analysis Phase															
3.6.1	Preparation of Workshop contents on proposals about the specific topics															
3.6.2	Identification and travel organisation of EU Experts on the topics included in Workshop															
3.6.3	Meeting for discussing the contents previously identified on the on concrete final proposals															
3.6.4	Workshop closing event															
3.6.5	Preparation of a report with the Workshop results and sharing with the Main Chinese stakeholders															
3.7	Elaboration of reform proposals															
3.7.2.1	Final identification of reform proposals on topics 3.1.1															
3.7.2.2	Final identification of reform proposals on topics 3.2.1; 3.3.1															
3.7.3	Definition of a detailed plan activities for testing the proposals locally (if requested) and for the following stages															
3.7.4	Preparation of the final reform proposal document and sharing with the Main Chinese stakeholders															

2.3.3.8. Topics and Sub-topics

During the first months of the project the Resident Experts have proceeded to share and detail more precisely the meaning of the different topics for each result identifying some sub-topic through which the same topics can be articulated. The Resident Experts along with the members of the Consortium shared a variation that has been adjusted on the basis of all the feedbacks received from the Chinese Beneficiaries.

TOPICS		SUB - TOPICS
EU-CHINA SOCIAL PROTECTION REFORM PROJECT - Component 3/ Improving of legal framework and policy for social assistance		
LIST OF TOPICS AND SUB-TOPICS		
Result 9: The capacity of the MoCA for promulgating and enforcing the Social Assistance Law and the regulations on rural and urban minimum standards of living are strengthened; the skills of local officials in policy transmission and implementation are upgraded.		
T 9.1	Legal framework on Social Assistance	1. Comprehensive evaluation of the progress and development of Social Assistance provisions for the last 20 years 2. Assessment on temporary legal measures and regulations on Social Assistance 3. Analysis on specific regulations on the Social Assistance provisions (including case study) 4. Reforms on Social Assistance, including legislative actions for the simplification and homogenization of the legal framework 5. Regulations of minimum standards of living in urban and rural areas, (i.e. Urban Dibao Regulation)
T 9.2	Governance framework for Social Assistance administration and management process	1. Evaluation of the administrative organization structure and management of the Social Assistance institutions at different governmental levels 2. Analysis of segregating responsibilities between central and local institutions of Social Assistance
T 9.3	Processes and activities of policy transmission and implementation carried out at central and local level of Social Assistance	1. Mapping of central and local responsibilities within the overall Social Assistance management process at central, local, rural and urban level 2. Methods of transmission and dissemination of laws, regulations and implementation policies among the different Social Assistance institutions involved at central and local levels
T 9.4	Monitoring and evaluation of Social Assistance schemes	1. Monitoring the access to the social assistance benefits or services at central and local level 2. Analysis of benefits distribution (characteristics of beneficiaries, benefits payment period, etc.) 3. Monitoring of resource distribution 4. Methods of data management in order to prevent financial fraud 5. Reducing of overlapping in benefits - Social Assistance financing 6. Social Assistance resources management 7. Role of the ICT framework supporting the Social Assistance (application procedure, benefits payment, monitoring tools, financial management)

TOPICS		SUB - TOPICS
EU-CHINA SOCIAL PROTECTION REFORM PROJECT - Component 3/ Improving of legal framework and policy for social assistance		
LIST OF TOPICS AND SUB-TOPICS		
Result 10: The legal frameworks on a) formulation of unified standards for the estimation and calculation of social assistance benefits, b) recognition of social assistance target groups c) identification of low-income families are consolidated		
T 10.1.	Experiences on unified standards for calculation of Social Assistance benefits	1. Methods of calculations MLH - minimum livelihood guarantee standards – Dibao, including case study 2. Social Assistance benefits – developments and challenges 3. Social Assistance target groups (beneficiaries) – assessment criteria: income and other characteristics analysis, Social Assistance criteria, poverty line, (including case study)
T 10.2	Identification of Social Assistance target groups	1. Provisions on targets groups for Social Assistance benefits (main characteristics: income, assets, family unit, individual characteristics, etc.) 2. Techniques and methods for clustering the population aimed at providing a special kind of benefits for the special groups (children, elderly, people with disabilities, citizens of rural areas)
T 10.3	Overlapping and “cliff” effect management and policy framework	1. Legal framework with particular emphasis to the definition of solutions for the elimination / reduction of overlapping and cliff effect 2. Institutional coordination / integration of central and local regulations for the elimination / reduction of overlapping and cliff effect 3. Processes, methods and techniques for the elimination / reduction of overlapping and cliff effect
T 10.4	Procedures and methods for requirement verification within Social Assistance system at central, local, urban and rural level	1. Methods and procedures for the verification of the requirements for access to Social Assistance services – role of the Social Assistance institutions on different governmental levels 2. Analysis of the outputs of the verification process for Social Assistance in the framework of central and local regulations
Result 11: Efforts of the MoCA in improved care for poor rural people and disabled people are strengthened, and public information and transparency of social assistance policies are raised at provincial level		
T 11.1	Social Assistance for specific groups - services for children, elderly, people with disabilities, with a special focus on poor rural people	1. Comparative analysis of the general Social Assistance system (for general poor people) and the Social Assistance for the specific groups 2. Evaluation of specific Social Assistance services for special groups: children, elderly, people with disabilities, poor rural people 3. Methods of defining special groups for Social Assistance 4. Dedicated Social Assistance programmes

TOPICS		SUB - TOPICS
EU-CHINA SOCIAL PROTECTION REFORM PROJECT - Component 3/ Improving of legal framework and policy for social assistance		
LIST OF TOPICS AND SUB-TOPICS		
Result 11: Efforts of the MoCA in improved care for poor rural people and disabled people are strengthened, and public information and transparency of social assistance policies are raised at provincial level		
T 11.2	Social Assistance services for poor people and families – service delivery approach	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analysis of delivery of different forms of Social Assistance services – access criteria, procedure, duration, etc. 2. Evaluation of Social Assistance services – role of the family members, community networks and social charity organizations/NGOs 3. Medical assistance services – developments and challenges 4. Methods of cooperation between public sector and social charity organizations/NGOs 5. Methods of cooperation between public and private entities with social service sector 6. Further challenges (policy recommendations) for equity access and delivery of Social Assistance services for rural areas
T 11.3	Communication techniques and channels of public information on Social Assistance policy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communication methods and mechanisms used to inform citizens on Social Assistance policy 2. Transparency in the public information policy on the different governmental levels 3. Communication policy framework for people at risk of poverty (children, elderly, people with disabilities, citizens in rural areas) - evaluation and further challenges (policy recommendations)

2.3.3.9. Examples of Best Practices from the Consortium

Based on the topics and sub-topics identified they were provided by the members of the Consortium some examples of best practices that can be implemented in China.

Component 3 - Improvement of legal framework and policy enforcement for social assistance			
	Topic	Sub-topic	Best practices examples
Result 9: The capacity of MoCA for promulgating and enforcing the Social Assistance Law and the regulations on rural and urban minimum standards of living are strengthened; the skills of local officials in policy transmission and implementation are upgraded			
T 9.1	Legal framework on Social Assistance	1. Comprehensive evaluation of the progress and development of Social Assistance provisions for the last 20 years 2. Assessment on temporary legal measures and regulations on Social Assistance 3. Analysis on specific regulations on the Social Assistance provisions (including case study) 4. Reforms on Social Assistance, including legislative actions for the simplification and homogenization of the legal framework 5. Regulations of minimum standards of living in urban and rural areas, (i.a.Urban Dibao Regulation)	<p>BELGIUM: Law of 26 may 2002 on the right to Social Integration and Law of 2 april 1964 on the right to Social Integration</p> <p>CZECH REPUBLIC: State Social Support - family benefits (1995), Assistance in Material Need (2006), Living and Subsistent Minimum (2006), Benefits for people with Disabilities (2011); Experience with establishment and implementation of new non-contributory social benefit schemes after 1990 (when the Czech Republic became free market country)</p> <p>ITALY (INPS): Law 328/2000 concerning the Reform of the integrated system of Social Assistance</p> <p>POLAND: Law on Social Assistance (2004), Legal framework on the family provisions as a part of social assistance system. History: Act on social assistance of 29.11.1990. Exclusion of social pension (2003) and same benefits qualified as family benefits from the catalogue of social assistance. social assistance from May 1, 2004 bases on the act on social assistance of March 12, 2004; Reforms: Legislative actions for simplification of the legal framework aiming at creating social protection system based on clear division of social assistance tasks between central and local level ; legal framework on the family provisions as a part of social assistance system Regulation on minimum standards of living (both urban and rural areas)</p> <p>ROMANIA: Law on social assistance - general framework for organizing, functioning and financing the social assistance system: social benefits and social services); Future law on the Minimum Insertion Income (MII); History: 1524- social benefits; 1881- the first social assistance office within Bucharest Local Authority; 1920- the Ministry of Labour is established, with an Assistance Directorate; 1929- in Bucharest - The First Superior School of Social Assistance was established; Law 705/2001 on social assistance, replaced by Law no.47/2006 and then by current Law no 292/2011; Reforms: "The Strategy for Social Assistance System's Reform 2011-2013" approved in 2011 aims to make social assistance benefits more efficient, by eliminating errors, fraud, interconnecting databases, applying corrective measures, strenghtening the monitoring and evaluation capacity, better targeting for the poorest quintile of social assistance benefits, the simplifications of procedures, introducing activating measures for beneficiaries. National Strategy for social inclusion and poverty reduction 2014-2020; National Strategy for elderly and active ageing 2014-2020</p> <p>The regulation of the minimum standards of living for rural and urban areas is ensured through the legislative framework which is drafted by MoLFSPE and other ministries or authorities at central level. Law no.416/2001 regarding the guaranteed minimum income (GMI).Law no.277/2010 regarding family allowance. GEO no.70/2011 regarding heating benefits</p>

Component 3 - Improvement of legal framework and policy enforcement for social assistance			
	Topic	Sub-topic	Best practices examples
Result 9: The capacity of MoCA for promulgating and enforcing the Social Assistance Law and the regulations on rural and urban minimum standards of living are strengthened; the skills of local officials in policy transmission and implementation are upgraded			
T 9.2	Governance framework for Social Assistance administration and management process	1. Evaluation of the administrative organization structure and management of the Social Assistance institutions at different governmental levels 2. Analysis of segregating responsibilities between central and local institutions of Social Assistance	<p>ITALY (INPS): Law 328/2000: roles and responsibilities at central and local level (Central Government, Regions, Provinces, Municipalities)¹</p> <p>POLAND: Division of social assistance tasks and financing between central and local level (municipalities and communes, poviats (districts) and voivodships)</p> <p>Family support system on central, regional, subregional (poviats) and local level</p> <p>ROMANIA: MoLFSPE finances the social assistance benefits system and supports public and private social services providers and regulates the social assistance system, by promoting laws and Governmental Decision projects. The legislative framework drafted by the Ministry and approved by Government and/or the Parliament. Promulgation made by the President ; Large consultation process on project laws with the local authorities, NGO's and other stakeholders. Local authorities (both rural and urban) are in charge with the implementation and are responsible for providing social services according to their local needs. 'Local authorities and NGOs can be authorised as social services providers</p>
T 9.3	Processes and activities of policy transmission and implementation carried out at central and local level of Social Assistance	1. Mapping of central and local responsibilities within the overall Social Assistance management process at central, local, rural and urban level 2. Methods of transmission and dissemination of laws, regulations and implementation policies among the different Social Assistance institutions involved at central and local levels	<p>FRANCE: Respective roles of State and local administrations / councils (deciding on entitlements, financing, direct management, etc.)</p> <p>POLAND: Law on Social Assistance (2004), Legal framework on the family provisions as a part of social assistance system,¹ and implementing regulations. procedures of social, public and intergovernmental consultations of draft laws and strategies. Division of social assistance tasks and financing between central and local level (municipalities and communes, poviats (districts) and voivodships)</p> <p>ROMANIA: Project laws, Government decisions etc are disseminated through ministry's website for public consultation. The Ministry can also organise public debates, when requested. The ministry sends the final version of the project law/ regulation etc for approval to the other central public institutions with responsibilities in the area regulated by the normative act. Laws, public policies, etc in the field of social assistance are implemented at central and local level by local authorities, based also on their local social inclusion strategies. The social assistance system is decentralised. Each law has methodological regulations/norms that establish how the laws are implemented/ applied. For accessing social assistance benefits, citizens address the local authority/ Mairies and fill in a form containing their personal data, income and assets. The request will be further analysed and submitted for Mayor's approval. Once approved, the documents are forwarded to the County Agency for Payments which approve the file. For accessing social services, citizens address the local authority/ Mairies or a local social services provider. Here his request is evaluated and an intervention plan is drafted for him, plus measures. He then contacts a social services provider who designs a personalised plan and provides the necessary social services</p>

Component 3 - Improvement of legal framework and policy enforcement for social assistance			
	Topic	Sub-topic	Best practices examples
Result 9: The capacity of MoCA for promulgating and enforcing the Social Assistance Law and the regulations on rural and urban minimum standards of living are strengthened; the skills of local officials in policy transmission and implementation are upgraded			
T 9.4	Monitoring and evaluation of Social Assistance schemes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitoring the access to the social assistance benefits or services at central and local level 2. Analysis of benefits distribution (characteristics of beneficiaries, benefits payment period, etc.) 3. Monitoring of resource distribution 4. Methods of data management in order to prevent financial fraud 5. Reducing of overlapping in benefits - Social Assistance financing 6. Social Assistance resources management 7. Role of the ICT framework supporting the Social Assistance (application procedure, benefits payment, monitoring tools, financial management) 	<p>BELGIUM: Administrative automatisisation and simplification by co-design and use of the Crossroads Bank. Anti-Fraud Action Plan.</p> <p>FRANCE: Control procedures. The experience in Insertion income. Role of Employment services (Pôle emploi) Fiscal collaboration</p> <p>ITALY (INPS): Law 328/2000: The National Fund for Social Policies (NFSP)</p> <p>The National Social Assistance register ("Casellario dell'Assistenza")</p> <p>Anti-fraud management framework for disability benefits</p> <p>POLAND:Methods for financing Social Assistance (social and family benefits) initiatives</p> <p>Methods for financial allocation among the different involved institutions</p> <p>Role of the ICT in social assistance system - EMPATIA project</p> <p>Role of insititutions of social assistance system - ongoing evaluation of the services offered within social assistance system (social and family)</p> <p>ROMANIA: The financing of the social assistance system is ensured as follows:</p> <p>social assistance benefits- from state budget, social services by state budget, but also from local budgets.</p> <p>Local authorities are in charge with the management and monitoring of these resources. The financial resources for granting social assistance benefits are provided and monitored by the MoLFSPE and the National Agency for Payments and Social Inspection (NAPSI) and managed by the local authorities.</p> <p>Local authorities are in charge with the management and monitoring of these resources. The financial resources for granting social assistance benefits are provided and monitored by the MoLFSPE and the National Agency for Payments and Social Inspection (NAPSI) and managed by the local authorities,</p> <p>The social inspectors from the NAPSI and CAPSI perform thematic inspection campaigns that are based on an annual inspection plan for monitoring the compliance with the rules for granting social benefits and providing social services. Social inspections are also performed when irregularity or fraud alerts are received. The sanction policy includes measures for repaying the benefits received by non-eligible persons and disciplinary measures for employees who intentionally misinterpreted the laws.</p> <p>The ICT system supporting the management and delivery of social assistance benefits in Romania is called SAFIR and it is managed by the NAPSI and the local/county agencies (CAPSI)</p>

Component 3 - Improvement of legal framework and policy enforcement for social assistance			
	Topic	Sub-topic	Best practices examples
Result 10: The legal frameworks on a) formulation of unified standards for the estimation and calculation of social assistance benefits, b) recognition of social assistance target groups and c) identification of low-income families are consolidated			
T 10.1.	Experiences on unified standards for calculation of Social Assistance benefits	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Methods of calculations MLH - minimum livelihood guarantee standards – Dibao, including case study 2. Social Assistance benefits – developments and challenges 3. Social Assistance target groups (beneficiaries) – assessment criteria: income and other characteristics analysis, Social Assistance criteria, poverty line, (including case study) 	<p>CZECH REPUBLIC: Application of guaranteed minimum (living and subsistence minimum) as the basis for assessing the benefit eligibility and benefit amount calculation</p> <p>FRANCE: Dependent care insurance Evaluation of loss in autonomy GIR</p> <p>ITALY (INPS): The ISEE (Equivalent Economic Situation Indicator) reform and the evolution of calculation methods of Social Assistance benefits and services</p> <p>POLAND: Unified standards for cash benefits calculation based on the income criterion</p> <p>ROMANIA: The standards for calculation of social assistance benefits have been unified in 2013 for the main benefits granted to the poor (GMI, FA and HB), meaning that the request form, the declaration and the list of goods that make the applicants not eligible for the benefits are now the same for all three benefits. The standards for calculation of costs for social services are established through the Government Decision no.23/2010 regarding the approval of cost standards for social services. Clustering criteria: income, assets, family unit, individual characteristics. There are certain eligibility thresholds established for accessing social assistance benefits. For social services, individual characteristics and needs are taken into account and included in the personalised plan done by the social worker</p>
T 10.2	Identification of Social Assistance target groups	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provisions on targets groups for Social Assistance benefits (main characteristics: income, assets, family unit, individual characteristics, etc.) 2. Techniques and methods for clustering the population aimed at providing a special kind of benefits for the special groups (children, elderly, people with disabilities, citizens of rural areas) 	<p>CZECH REPUBLIC: 20 years of experience with target group definition and setting distinctive social benefits according to variables bound with the beneficiary (social and economic situation, income, motivation to commence a gainful activity, health status, household size etc.). Appropriate use of income-tested benefits and means-tested benefits and assessing of the claims.</p> <p>ITALY (INPS): ISEE (Equivalent Economic Situation Indicator) as a new method to define target groups and clustering beneficiaries and low income families or people</p> <p>POLAND: Techniques and methods used for target group definition aimed at regulating the access to Social Assistance benefits and services. Clustering criteria (main groups of social assistance beneficiaries: homeless, the unemployed, the disabled and the dependent people, the poor, the elderly, families and children, victims of natural and ecological disasters)</p> <p>ROMANIA: The Law on social assistance defines the vulnerable groups through the factors that can hinder people's capacity to satisfy their daily living needs, such as lack of financial resources, illness, disability or addiction. This is the sociological method currently used for target group definition, beneficiaries clustering and identification of families/people. The social assistance benefits and services are granted only after a preliminary evaluation of the social, economic and health status of the person/family is performed. Clustering criteria: income, assets, family unit, individual characteristics. There are certain eligibility thresholds established for accessing social assistance benefits. For social services, individual characteristics and needs are taken into account and included in the personalised plan done by the social worker. The indicators refer to certain categories of persons in need, such as: lone or dependent elderly, children without parental protection/care, etc. and the criteria that applies refers to the level of income and assets, state of health, living conditions and social participation</p>

Component 3 - Improvement of legal framework and policy enforcement for social assistance			
	Topic	Sub-topic	Best practices examples
Result 10: The legal frameworks on a) formulation of unified standards for the estimation and calculation of social assistance benefits, b) recognition of social assistance target groups and c) identification of low-income families are consolidated			
T 10.3	Overlapping and “cliff” effect management and policy framework	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Legal framework with particular emphasis to the definition of solutions for the elimination / reduction of overlapping and cliff effect 2. Institutional coordination / integration of central and local regulations for the elimination / reduction of overlapping and cliff effect 3. Processes, methods and techniques for the elimination / reduction of overlapping and cliff effect 	<p>ITALY (INPS): ISEE (Equivalent Economic Situation Indicator) as a method to manage overlapping and cliff effect</p> <p>POLAND: Cooperation commission between central and regional level consultation process, strategic approach (the EU approach to funding national and regional operational programmes) - Joint Central Government and Local Government Committee</p> <p>ROMANIA: Legal framework: Law 292/2011; MoLFSPE's Order no.1313; GEO 113/2011 regarding the functioning of NAPS; Govt.Decision no.151/2012 regarding the status of NAPS; Databases interconnections based on cooperation protocols; Inspections, 'Databases interconnections based on cooperation protocols, professional supervision</p>
T 10.4	Procedures and methods for requirement verification within Social Assistance system at central, local, urban and rural level	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Methods and procedures for the verification of the requirements for access to Social Assistance services – role of the Social Assistance institutions on different governmental levels 2. Analysis of the outputs of the verification process for Social Assistance in the framework of central and local regulations 	<p>FRANCE: Department (sub-regional) centers for social welfare CDAS</p> <p>ITALY (INPS): ISEE (Equivalent Economic Situation Indicator) as a method for facilitating the requirement verification</p> <p>POLAND: Role of institutions of social assistance system - ongoing evaluation of the services offered within social assistance system (social and family)</p> <p>ROMANIA: Social inquiry is the main method used for requirement verification at central, local, urban and rural level. This allows the authorities to establish if the persons requesting social benefits/services fulfill the conditions for receiving them</p>
Result 11: Efforts of the MoCA in improved care for poor rural people and disabled people are strengthened, and public information and transparency of social assistance policies are raised at provincial level			
T 11.1	Social Assistance for specific groups - services for children, elderly, people with disabilities, with a special focus on poor rural people	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Comparative analysis of the general Social Assistance system (for general poor people) and the Social Assistance for the specific groups 2. Evaluation of specific Social Assistance services for special groups: children, elderly, people with disabilities, poor rural people 3. Methods of defining special groups for Social Assistance 4. Dedicated Social Assistance programmes 	<p>ITALY (INPS): “Ordinary Shopping card” for low income over 65s and for low income under 3; “Bonus bebè” (voucher for children)</p> <p>POLAND: Description of social assistance services for poor people and families (individual services - at home, institutional care). Division of social assistance tasks and financing between central, regional, subregional level and local level</p> <p>ROMANIA: GMI, FA and HB are social assistance benefits for poor people and families, while CRB, state child allowance and the disability benefits are granted to those entitled to receive them, regardless of their income. Social services are provided to vulnerable people, according to the cause of their vulnerability, either by public social assistance bodies or by foundations, NGO's or other private providers, in residential or day-care facilities, at community level, or in their own homes. Social security is a larger concept, that includes both social assistance and social insurance rights such as pensions, unemployment benefits or health social insurance. Social insurance rights are contributory rights. Medical assistance is provided to those having a health social insurance, when they need it, on request. Social services are provided at local level by public and private providers (LAs or NGOs). MoLFSPE and local authorities offer non-reimbursable financing, subsidies to social services providers which are monitored and evaluated for sustainability. MoLFSPE has National Interest Programs supporting the implementation of its strategies and covering the gap/discrepancies in the system</p>

Component 3 - Improvement of legal framework and policy enforcement for social assistance			
	Topic	Sub-topic	Best practices examples
Result 11: Efforts of the MoCA in improved care for poor rural people and disabled people are strengthened, and public information and transparency of social assistance policies are raised at provincial level			
T 11.2	Social Assistance services for poor people and families – service delivery approach	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analysis of delivery of different forms of Social Assistance services – access criteria, procedure, duration, etc. 2. Evaluation of Social Assistance services – role of the family members, community networks and social charity organizations/NGOs 3. Medical assistance services – developments and challenges 4. Methods of cooperation between public sector and social charity organizations/NGOs 5. Methods of cooperation between public and private entities with social service sector 6. Further challenges (policy recommendations) for equity access and delivery of Social Assistance services for rural areas 	<p>ITALY (INPS): “Shopping card” for low income families; Law 328/2000 and the involved of the third sector subjects in the Social Assistance framework; Collaboration between INPS and Fiscal Assistance Centers (CAF); Patronages institutions</p> <p>POLAND: Examples of comprehensive social assistance services and care for elderly, children, poor rural people and disabled</p> <p>ROMANIA: Social assistance services are provided in Romania for various types of beneficiaries: lone and/or poor elderly, children with no care and protection from their parents, poor people/families, disabled people, people suffering from addictions, homeless people, victims of domestic violence, at both urban and rural levels</p>
T 11.3	Communication techniques and channels of public information on Social Assistance policy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communication methods and mechanisms used to inform citizens on Social Assistance policy 2. Transparency in the public information policy on the different governmental levels 3. Communication policy framework for people at risk of poverty (children, elderly, people with disabilities, citizens in rural areas) - evaluation and further challenges (policy recommendations) 	<p>ITALY (INPS): INPS Contact Centers and Local Social Counters</p> <p>POLAND: Role of the social dialogue with social partners and NGOs - cooperation between government and NGOs sector Tri-partite Commission for Socio-Economic issues (representatives of government, employees’ and employers’ parties)</p> <p>ROMANIA: The main communication techniques used by the social assistance providers and policy makers are press releases and public appearances and the channels of public information and transparency used are TV or radio broadcasts, internet websites of the organizations or postings at their own premises</p>

3. Deliverables

As required in the Grant Application Form, during the inception phase all the templates related to the project deliverables have been already prepared.

In the following table all the deliverable typologies that will be produced in the project during 2015 have been described. Moreover, an approval process has been included in relation to each deliverable identified.

Table of Deliverables

Deliverable		Owners		
Name	Description	Creation	Review	Approval
Aide-Mémoire	The aide-mémoire summarizes the main organizational and management issues as already discussed with the main Chinese Stakeholders. The contents of this document are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the final "Organizational Structure" of the Project Advisory Committee (PAC); the yearly detailed work schedule; the Horizontal Activities; the list of deliverables and the corresponding approval process; Objectively Verifiable Indicators. 	Consortium		Internal: Project Leader Chinese Beneficiaries
Dedicated Project Website	The Consortium will manage a Dedicated Project Website where will be available: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a download section for all Project Material; a Scheduling of related meetings and events; a section with General News, a Project Progress Indicator; a list of the main Results Achieved. 	Consortium		Internal: Project Leader Chinese Beneficiaries
Newsletters	In order to highlight content updates to all Website users, an e-mail Newsletter will also be implemented.	Consortium		Internal: Project Leader Chinese Beneficiaries
Electronic Directory of Contacts	In order to ensure the exchange and the sharing of information and to facilitate the involvement of the different actors on issues of interest, all participants will be asked to register to the Project Directory of Contacts. Everyone can insert their experiences, competences, interests and contact creating a network among people involved.	Consortium		Internal: Project Leader Chinese Beneficiaries
Communication Strategy Customized (for each of the Events planned)	The Consortium will customize the Communication Strategy on the basis of the type of event, audience invited and subject addressed.	Consortium		Internal: Project Leader Chinese Beneficiaries

Deliverable		Owners		
Name	Description	Creation	Review	Approval
Visibility Materials (for each of the Events planned)	Designing, printing and dissemination of Brochures, Leaflets and Project Information Reports. The Consortium will organize, when relevant, Press Releases for both traditional and electronic newspapers and will provide support in preparing Audio and Visual materials suitable for television and Web dissemination. At the end of the project the Consortium will provide commemorative plaques.	Consortium Project Secretariat		Internal: Project Leader Chinese Beneficiaries
Project Work Plan	The Project Work Plan is a detailed plan of project activities.	Component Coordinator Project Secretariat Resident Expert	Project Leader EU Member States	1st level: EUD 2nd level: Chinese Beneficiaries
Component Status Reports	Report on the progress of the work-stream to be shared with the Project Leader and EU MS involved in the Component.	Component Coordinator Resident Expert	Project Leader EU Member States	1st level: EUD 2nd level: Chinese Beneficiaries
Project Status Reports	Report on the progress of the Project.	Project Secretariat	Project Leader	1st Level: EUD 2nd Level: Chinese Beneficiaries
Ex-Post Monitoring Reports	Report aimed to verify the effective achievement of the expected results and to identify the main "lessons learned" resulting from planning mistakes.	Component Coordinator Project Secretariat Resident Expert	Project Leader EU Member States	1st Level: EUD 2nd Level: Chinese Beneficiaries
Interim Reports	Report for monitoring project progresses and economics and financial variables.	Project Leader	Component Coordinator Project Secretariat	1st Level: EUD 2nd Level: Chinese Beneficiaries
Assessment reports	The Assessment Report collects all the result of the Situational analysis and provides an analysis on the topics analyzed. It includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a general description of the current situation; • the most relevant statistical data; • an overview about ongoing activities and plans aimed at improving the current situation, including current reform; efforts, proposals and possible pilot projects; • a list of open problems/issues. 	EU Resident Expert Chinese Expert	Component Coordinator	Internal: Project Leader Chinese Beneficiaries

Deliverable		Owners		
Name	Description	Creation	Review	Approval
Country Reports	Report providing an overall description of the Social Protection system in each EU MS of the Consortium.	Each Consortium Member	Component Coordinator	Internal: Project Leader Chinese Beneficiaries*
Best Practices Report	Report which illustrates relevant top experiences on analyzed topics of Consortium Members or, if needed, of other EU countries, to be introduced in China.	Each Consortium Member	Component Coordinator	Internal: Project Leader Chinese Beneficiaries*
Basic Benchmark	A Basic benchmark study of the EU MS Best Practices, in order to allow a compared and more comprehensive analysis of the European experience on Social protection specific analyzed topic.	Component Coordinator	Consortium	Internal: Project Leader Chinese Beneficiaries
Panel discussion Reports	Report that includes evidences and main decisions taken during the meetings with a focus on the EU best practices to be deepened.	Chinese expert EU Resident Experts	Component Coordinator EU MS Public Staff	Internal: Project Leader Chinese Beneficiaries
Preliminary Proposals	Deliverable that includes the preliminary proposals on the EU most relevant models to be introduced in the Chinese context related to specific topics analyzed.	EU Resident Expert	Component Coordinator EU Member States	Internal: Project Leader Chinese Beneficiaries
Training/Study Assignment reports	Report that details the experiences shared and the main findings. It also includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a complete course schedule to be used for further reference and possible replication; • a report of the trainees; • a technical report on the topic discussed, with relevant draft instruments, tools and practical procedural flows and charts attached. 	EU hosting Countries	Component Coordinator EU Resident Expert	Internal: Project Leader Chinese Beneficiaries
Workshop reports	Report that includes evidences and main decision taken during the meetings with a focus on the first draft of reform proposals related to the relevant topics analyzed, and a first set of proposed activities for a technical assistance programme and the development of relevant technical tools under the framework of the project.	Chinese Expert EU Resident Expert	Component Coordinator EU MS Public Staff	Internal: Project Leader Chinese Beneficiaries
*The Chinese Beneficiaries approval of this documentation is related to the completeness of information and its alignment to their expectations from these deliverables				

In the next 4 tables, the deliverables produced in 2015 have been identified on the basis of activity plans (both horizontal and for each component).

Horizontal Activities - Deliverables

ID	Activity	Deliverable	Deadline
0.1	Inception	Aide-Mémoire	April 2015
0.2	Visibility	Updated Project Website	Within the 15th of each month
		Newsletters	June 2015 and December 2015
		Electronic Directory of Contacts	Each month*
		Communication Strategy Customized (for High Level Event on Social Assistance)	August 2015
		Communication Strategy Customized (for Opening Event)	May 2015
		Communication Strategy Customized (for Workshop in China)	November 2015
		Communication Strategy Customized (for Training in France)	May 2015
		Communication Strategy Customized (for Study visit to Spain, Poland, and the Czech Republic)	August 2015
		Visibility Materials (for High Level Event on Social Assistance)	August 2015
		Visibility Materials (for Opening Event)	May 2015
		Visibility Materials (for Workshop in China)	November 2015
		Visibility Materials (for Training in France)	May 2015
		Visibility Materials (for Study visit to Spain, Poland, and the Czech Republic)	August 2015
0.4	Coordination and Monitoring	Project Work Plan	April 2015 and October 2015
		Component Status Reports	May 2015 and November 2015
		Project Status Reports	May 2015 and November 2015
		Ex-Post Monitoring Reports	May 2015 and November 2015
		Interim Reports	December 2015

*List of users registered to the Electronic Directory of Contacts is widespread among the participants each quarter.

Component 1 - Deliverables

ID	Activity	Deliverable	Deadline
1.1	Situational Analysis	Assessment Report (for topics 1.1.1; 1.3.2; 1.3.4)	May 2015
		Assessment Report (for topics 1.3.1; 1.4.3)	September 2015
1.2	Identification and review of possible relevant EU experience	Country Report	October 2015
		Best Practices Report	October 2015
1.3	Panel discussions with stakeholders on the Identification Phase	Panel Discussion Report (for topics 1.1.1; 1.3.2; 1.3.4)	July 2015
		Panel Discussion Report (for topics 1.3.1; 1.4.3)	November 2015
1.4	Specific analysis of relevant EU experience	Preliminary Proposals (for topics 1.1.1; 1.3.2; 1.3.4)	September 2015
		Preliminary Proposals (for topics 1.3.1; 1.4.3)	January 2016
1.5	Training/Study Assignments to EU countries	Training Report (for topic 1.3.4)	June 2015
		Study Assignment Report (for topic 1.4.3)	October 2015
1.6	Workshop with stakeholders on the Analysis Phase	Workshop Report	December 2015

Component 2 - Deliverables

ID	Activity	Deliverable	Deadline
2.1	Situational Analysis	Assessment Report (for topics 2.1.1; 2.2.1)	July 2015
		Assessment Report (for topics 2.1.2; 2.2.2)	November 2015
2.2	Identification and review of possible relevant EU experience	Country Report	October 2015
		Best Practices Report	October 2015
2.3	Panel discussions with stakeholders on the Identification Phase	Panel Discussion Report (for topics 2.1.1; 2.2.1)	December 2015
		Panel Discussion Report (for topics 2.1.2; 2.2.2)	December 2015
2.4	Specific analysis of relevant EU experience	Preliminary Proposals (for topics 2.1.1; 2.2.1)	September 2015
		Preliminary Proposals (for topics 2.1.2; 2.2.2)	January 2016
2.6	Workshop with stakeholders on the Analysis Phase	Workshop Report (for topic 2.1.1; 2.2.1)	December 2015

Component 3 – Deliverables

ID	Activity	Deliverable	Deadline
3.1	Situational Analysis	Assessment Report (for topic 3.1.1)	July 2015
		Assessment Report (for topics 3.2.1; 3.3.1)	November 2015
3.2	Identification and review of possible relevant EU experience	Country Report	October 2015
		Best Practices Report	October 2015
3.3	Panel discussions with stakeholders on the Identification Phase	Panel discussion Report (for topic 3.1.1)	July 2015
		Panel discussion Report (for topics 3.2.1; 3.3.1)	November 2015
3.4	Specific analysis of relevant EU experience	Preliminary Proposals (for topic 3.1.1)	September 2015
		Preliminary Proposals (for topics 3.2.1; 3.3.1)	January 2016
3.6	Workshop with stakeholders on the Analysis Phase	Workshop Report	December 2015

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