



Media release

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Sino-Swiss Low Carbon Cities project launched, Yantai becomes first city to sign MoU

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) under the Sino-Swiss Low Carbon Cities (SSLCC) Project was signed between Swiss Development Agency (SDC) and Yantai Municipal People's Government on Thursday, March 17, making Yantai the first Chinese city to sign a MoU with Switzerland under the program.

An important component of SDC's program on climate change, the ultimate goal of the SSLCC project is to contribute to the mitigation of climate change by reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases in Chinese urban areas. It aims to combine positive results made in different pilot projects with Chinese cities.

The Mayor of Yantai Ms. Zhang Yongxia and the Ambassador of Switzerland to China Dr. Jean-Jacques de Dardel signed the MoU. Mayor Zhang, accompanied by Mr. Zhang Junhui, counsellor of the European Department of China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Zhang Yongsun, deputy director general of the Foreign Affairs Office of Shandong Province, also held talks with the Swiss Embassy delegation.

The signing ceremony also marks the inauguration of three components of the pilot project under the SSLCC project in Yantai: the Sino-Swiss Energy Conservation and Environmental Protection Technology Park, Sino-Swiss Advanced Technology Transfer Center and Sino-Swiss Low Carbon Cities Communication Office.

As China's largest State-owned enterprise on energy conservation and environmental protection, Chinese Energy Conservation and Environmental Protection Group Yantai will be the implementer of the technology park for its investment, planning, and operation. The project connects directly with the national strategy of the "One Belt One Road" development.

The SSLCC project, a two-phase project with each phase lasting three years, has formally started in early 2016. By introducing innovative technologies and approaches to Chinese cities, combing the strengthen of persons in charge of city management and hosting evidence-based policy dialogues at various levels, the project is expected to result in more sustainable urban city development in China.

A city with a strong desire to promote the integration of the economic and environmental development, Yantai will continue to pursue the innovative development of environmental

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technologies and industry. This is expected to be conducted through the cooperation on effective policy schemes for the industrial transformation and upgrading, industrial cluster development, improved environmental standards and operational measures on consolidating the R&D and innovation mechanism. In these fields, added-values will be studied from successful experiences made by Switzerland in the last century.

The SSLCC Project will also cooperate closely with Shanghai, Chongqing and Chengdu. More cooperation news and project information will be released in the months to come.

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