



Media Release

Beijing 13 April 2016

Signed under the witness of Swiss and Chinese presidents, Sino-Swiss Low Carbon Cities Project launched in Chengdu

A new cooperation under the Sino-Swiss Low Carbon Cities (SSLCC) Project developed between the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and Chengdu, Capital city of Sichuan Province, was inaugurated yesterday (April 12th). The founding Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on April 8th at the Great People's Hall in Beijing, witnessed by the Chinese President Xi Jinping and the Swiss President Johann Schneider-Amman on the occasion of his state visit to China.

The cooperation in Chengdu includes the pilot project of Sino-Swiss (Chengdu) Low Carbon Bio-Medical Industrial Park in Wenjiang District, the Sino-Swiss (Chengdu) Advanced Technology Transfer Center and the Sino-Swiss Low Carbon Cities (SSLCC) Chengdu Cooperation Center.

Under the newly established Innovative Strategic Partnership between Switzerland and China, the SSLCC Project focuses on the ultimate goal of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases in Chinese urban areas and to increase the climate resilience of the economy. It aims to improve the environmental standards through technical cooperation and to establish exchange platforms for political leaders, technical experts and private sectors.

Together with Chengdu, four other Chinese cities - Chongqing, Guangzhou, Shanghai and Yantai (out of projected ten) - have already signed MoUs under the framework of the project and will work closely with Switzerland.

The opening of the new operation in Chengdu is expected to help the city to become one of the most sustainable regions in western China by promoting innovative and successful Swiss approaches, knowledge and technologies in its rapid urbanization and to tackle climate change and its passive impacts. New initiatives will 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.

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The Ambassador of Switzerland to China Jean-Jacques de Dardel said at the inauguration ceremony on Tuesday that Chengdu is a perfect example of going green, with a preserved natural environment, rich natural resources and a determined leadership. Switzerland wants to share 50 years of experience with Chengdu in addressing environmental challenges and sustainable industrial development. The Ambassador is very confident that this cooperation will contribute substantially to a low carbon future of Chengdu as a good example among Chinese cities and be later shared with other cities.

Zhu Zhihong, the First Vice Mayor of Chengdu Municipal People's Government, said that this project is a benchmark for the Sino-Swiss cooperation and will greatly strengthen the relations between Chengdu and Switzerland. The Party Secretary-General of Wenjiang District Wang Daoming, District Mayor Chen Zhiyong, the First Vice District Mayor Wang Qing and representatives from Chengdu municipal agencies also attended the inauguration ceremony.

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