Name of the project

Coordinating Institution
University of Lapland, Finland

Objectives of the project (as indicated in the project proposal)
The project Finnish-Chinese Collaboration for Doctoral Studies in Social Work (FCSW) focused on strengthening the development of social work expertise by building a long-term doctoral training and research collaboration in social work between China and Finland. The specific aim was to strengthen social work doctoral training in China and the internationalization of social work doctoral training and research in Finland. The core objective was to produce a common study module (16 ECTS) for doctoral students in both countries.

Achieved results and outcomes
The project organized successfully two one week intensive seminars during the years 2014-2015 both in Helsinki and Beijing and promoted social work doctoral training in China and Finland. Altogether approximately 20 doctoral students (and in addition, some Chinese master’s students in Beijing) and a dozen of social work professors have participated in the activities. The mobilities (altogether 20) carried out with the CIMO project funding have enabled organizing of the two Intensive Seminars which were the key activities in the project. The experiences of the join activities were very promising and collaboration has proved significant to both counties. The collaboration has enhanced the understanding of social work’s history and present day roles and challenges in China and Finland. Finnish and Chinese partners both found these weeks most productive and useful. Valuable study material and experiences were gained to create a common study module in the future cooperation.

Activities carried out during the project
The project organized successfully two one week intensive seminars during the years 2014-2015 both in Helsinki and Beijing and promoted social work doctoral training in China and Finland. The mobilities (altogether 20) carried out with the CIMO project funding have enabled organising of the two Intensive Seminars which were the key activities in the project. The project enabled the following mobilities: From China to Finland: 2 professors, and 8 doctoral students and From Finland to China 2 professors, 1 other staff member, and 8 doctoral students.

Future developments
During the project the future collaboration was negotiated and agreed between the project partners. Continuing the collaboration at the professor and teacher level by producing research-based knowledge on social work education and organizing academic seminars were considered crucial next steps. It was considered important to extend the collaboration to cover also master level social work education and research.