**China Programme**, final report for projects 2012-2014

**SUMMARY REPORT of THE PROJECT**

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<thead>
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<th>Name of the project</th>
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<td>&quot;Doctoral Training Program in Social Sciences - &quot;Sustainable Cities&quot;</td>
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<th>Coordinating Institution</th>
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<td>University of Turku, Centre for East Asian Studies</td>
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**Objectives of the project (as indicated in the project proposal)**

1. Joint PhD Program
2. Establishment of strong networks
3. Development of best practices
4. Innovative research results that help to make cities more livable

**Achieved results and outcomes**

1. The project has been able to create a very positive mindset among the participants and to gather momentum on which it is feasible to build future cooperation in PhD training. The discussions on an agreement in joint PhD training are underway, but complicated by different structures and requirements of PhD degrees in the participating faculties. A clear sign of commitment from the Chinese side was their initiative to make a faculty level student exchange agreement. The agreement was signed in spring 2014.

2. The project has been able to establish strong networks among PhD students and teachers which contribute to innovative new research results. This would not have been possible without meeting twice for a long enough period (one week). The usage of social media (wechat) was important in maintaining and further strengthening networks among PhD students and teachers.

3. Development of best practices
   Several best practices in both administration and teaching were identified.

4. According to the course feedback, the international and multidisciplinary environment has encouraged the PhD students to widen their views and find alternative new approaches to their research.
Activities carried out during the project

The project arranged two PhD training courses – one in Shanghai and one in Turku. In addition, the grant enabled additional staff mobility that further strengthened cooperation ties between the participating institutes. During the project, the UTU Faculty of Social Sciences and the Fudan School of Social Development and Public Policy negotiated and signed a student exchange agreement at the initiative of Fudan partner. Furthermore the PhD courses generated joint publications and research cooperation.

Future developments

Cooperation in PhD training between the partners will continue in various forms, such as student and staff exchange and the arrangement of joint courses (online).

Other remarks

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