

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT
BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
ON
SUSTAINABLE CITIES

Further to the joint statement by the UK and Chinese Premiers in March 2004 in which our countries pledged to share experience through a high-level dialogue on sustainable development,

Building on the sustainable urban development theme of the China-UK Sustainable Development Dialogue which was subsequently established in November 2005, and aims to increase the understanding and use of sustainable urban planning, design and energy efficiency,

Recognising that sustainable cities increase energy efficiency, consume fewer resources, produce less pollution and avoid sprawling over the countryside and make a significant and valuable contribution to our joint work in tackling global climate change,

With a view to strengthening knowledge and experience in our two countries in the field of sustainable cities, through sharing engineering, technical, academic and financial expertise,

We will:

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1. *Support* the creation and implementation of the eco-city project at Dongtan and specifically the Dongtan Institute for Sustainability;

The project at Dongtan will use technical and financial expertise from the private sector and will include the creation of a multidisciplinary Institute as a platform for innovation and leadership in the field of urban development to demonstrate that such a project can be sustainable.

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2. *Foster* collaboration and mutual learning between Dongtan and the Thames Gateway area through the eventual partnering of the Dongtan Institute for Sustainability with the institutes created in the Thames Gateway – the Thames Gateway Institute for Sustainability and the Thames Gateway Institute of Urban Renaissance.

Both participants are seeking to learn from and develop best international practice through these complementary institutes which will feed in to global learning, increase our capacity to develop sustainably and create significant business opportunities across the world.

3. *Work in partnership* to create a ‘Virtual Academy’ aimed at addressing the urgent requirement for innovation and change towards sustainable development on a global scale.

This will build on existing activity, research networks and other international institutes.

UK and Chinese representatives of the institutions leading this initiative will examine how this activity could best be developed and coordinated, including ways to ensure oversight of this project, possibly through the creation of a joint UK-China governing body involving representatives of the institutions and relevant government officials.

4. *Conduct* collaborative research studies on urban regeneration planning and implementation mechanisms and low income urban housing.

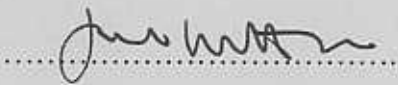
These case studies of UK and Chinese cities will be developed under the sustainable urban development theme of the China-UK Sustainable Development Dialogue and will increase the understanding and use of sustainable urban development approaches by professionals in China and the UK, encourage lesson learning between the UK and China, and identify transferable and adaptable models.

5. *Cooperate* on environmental technologies by focusing on matching UK business expertise with Chinese enterprises and public works projects to develop sustainable solutions to environmental challenges and resource efficiency targets. Wuhan has been identified as the pilot city. By identifying environmental projects of mutual interest in urban areas of China the initiative will promote direct contact between businesses, experts and decision makers and develop joint work to showcase successful projects. Further Chinese cities may join the initiative once the pilot has been established.

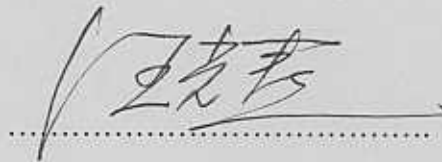
This Memorandum of Understanding will come into operation on signature and will continue in operation until terminated by either participant giving six months' written notice to each other.

Signed in Beijing on 18 Jan in duplicate in the Chinese and English languages, both texts having equal validity.

For the Government of the United
Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern
Ireland



For the Government of the People's
Republic of China



Explanatory Note

Paragraph 3

The UK proposed existing activities for the 'Virtual Academy' include Nottingham-Ningbo University and its Chinese partners, notably the Engineering and Physical Services Research Council (EPSRC) networks led by University College London (UCL), Imperial College London and the University of Southampton, with University partners from the UK (including Bradford, Cardiff, Cranfield, Exeter, Nottingham, RCA, Sheffield and Wales Universities), and China (including Chongqing, Peking, Hong Kong, Southeast, Tianjin, Tongji and Tsinghua Universities).

The Academy will also incorporate new initiatives such as the Dongtan Institute of Sustainability and the proposed Thames Gateway Institutes.

Paragraph 4

Regarding the UK-China collaborative research studies on urban regeneration planning and implementation mechanisms and low income urban housing, the UK would like the outcome of these case studies to feed into the World Urban Forum in Nanjing in October 2008.

Paragraph 5

Regarding the Wuhan sustainable cities project, the UK believes that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Chinese and UK governments is a framework MOU, on which the MOU between the Ministry of Commerce and the UK's Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform is based.

China and the UK agreed at the UK-China Joint Economic and Trade Committee Ministerial meeting in June 2007 to cooperate on environmental technologies supporting the development of sustainable cities. The Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Commerce in China and the UK's Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform signed on 18 January 2008 agrees the detail of the collaboration on matching UK business expertise and Chinese enterprises in the field of environmental technologies.