

RCE Suzhou launched Stockholm+50 Only One Earth Series Events

Introduction



Events Logo

Since mid-March, under the leadership of Dr. Xuanwei Cao, RCE Suzhou started contact and collaboration with Sweden Consulate-General Shanghai, to co-organize series of events (online pattern) to spread the historic impact of the 1972 Stockholm Conference, the excellent practices of Swedish enterprises toward sustainability transformation, the distinctive business values and management philosophies of Swedish companies in the Scandinavian cultural context, to promote cross-cultural communication and raise young students' awareness of their responsibilities to the future they want. After close communications and contacts with Sweden Consulate-General Shanghai, RCE Suzhou successfully reached the collaboration agreement to launch the series events from April 20 before the eve of the Earth Day.

This series of events received great support from the Consulate General of Sweden in Shanghai, CSR Centre of the Embassy of Sweden in Beijing, Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung, China Academic Committee for Responsible Management Education, and Oikos Suzhou. On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment, RCE Suzhou aims to call on university students across China to pay more attention to the challenges and opportunities of sustainable development and to examine the greater responsibility they can take as global citizens to protect the "Only One Planet" in their future career development and life. This series of events provide students great opportunities to dialogue with various representative stakeholders from political, social, business and educational groups to deepen young students' understanding of shouldering greater responsibilities in their generation.

April 20, Dialogue with Consul General: Sustainable Development in Sweden since 1972



Stockholm+50 Only One Earth Series Events

Organizers: RCE Suzhou, Oikos International (Suzhou), Centre for Responsible and Sustainable Business Education (IBSS)

Co-organizers: Consulate General of Sweden in Shanghai, CSR Centre of the Embassy of Sweden in Beijing

Supporters: Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung, China Academic Committee for Responsible Management Education

Date: Wednesday 20 April
Time: 15:00–16:30

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On April 20 afternoon, the first event of the Stockholm +50 Only One Earth Series Events was kicked off by Mrs. Marie-Claire Swärd Capra, Consul General of Sweden in Shanghai. Other Swedish representatives also attended online and involved in the dialogue and exchange with audiences. They are Ms. Jakob Holthuis, Deputy Consul General, Consulate General of Sweden in Shanghai, and Ms. Paola Albornoz, Director of the CSR Centre of the Embassy of Sweden in Beijing.

April 27, Dialogue with Oatly: Sustainable Brand and Sustainable Consumption

Stockholm+50 Only One Earth Series Events

Organizers: RCE Suzhou, Oikos International (Suzhou), Centre for Responsible and Sustainable Business Education (IBSS)

Co-organizers: Oatly, Impact Hub Shanghai

Supporters: Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung, China Academic Committee for Responsible Management Education

Date: Wednesday 27 April

Time: 15:00 - 16:30

SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER →

This event invited two partners dedicated to spread sustainability ideas to youth in Shanghai, Oatly and Impact Hub. Knowing the rapid exponential growth of Oatly in Chinese market in the past few years, students were strongly motivated to communicate with Ms. Yifan Yang, Oatly Sustainability Manager, and Ms. Nan Yang, Oatly Sustainability Data Scientist.

Focused on the three topics, "How is Oatly exploring sustainable development transformation?" "What is the routine work in Oatly's sustainability department?" "What is the dilemma with sustainability marketing?", outstanding young student representatives dialogued with the world's leading sustainable brands together and discussed the current situation of sustainable development from the dual perspective of industry talents and young students.

April 29, Debate on the Youth Responsibility to Future

To ignite more students' deep thinking on the challenge of sustainable development, RCE Suzhou and Oikos Suzhou, with the support of Chinese Debating Club of Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, organized a wonderful debating performance event. On the evening of April 29, the debate performance competition with the theme of "Whether the current generation has the obligation to sacrifice the major interests of the current generation for the future generation" attracted online audiences from broad scope. The participants were inspired by the brilliant arguments of the opposing sides.

With the title of "The current generation has the obligation to sacrifice major interests for the future generation", the contestant Xinyi Wang put forwarded the view of "minimizing utilization of resources", and the conserved resources could be better used in the future. From a cultural perspective, she emphasized the spirit of sacrifice and importance of sufficiency which well explained how human society could realize sustainable development with one healthy planet.



Contestant Debating

"We are both the descendants of the previous generation and the predecessors of the future generations. We are all responsible for our own times. We all have our own opportunities and challenges." Yuang Jin, the opposing debater, also justified the reason that the current generation has no obligation to sacrifice important interests for future generations. He stressed the importance

of including justice and inclusiveness into consideration when making important policy decision making. He explained why ethical decision making could be beneficial to the whole society in the long run.



Opposing Debating

After the debate, Dr. Hao Xin, Secretary General of RCE Hangzhou and Dr. Xuanwei Cao gave valuable comments and suggestions to students' debating and encouraged them to broaden their perspectives and deepen their thoughts through looking back the journey of the past 50 years of human environment and sustainable development.

Both reviewers pointed out that "the essence of sustainable development is to meet the needs of the present without compromising the development needs of future generations. In the face of intergenerational ethical conflicts, the balance of present and future generations and the sustainable development concept could promote more sustainability-oriented innovation."

May 7, Dialogue with German Expert: Sustainable Development in Rural Regions of China



**Stockholm+50 Only
One Earth Series
Events**

**Dialogue with German Expert :
Sustainable Development
in Rural Regions of China**
对话德国专家：
中国农村地区的可持续发展



**嘉宾
GUEST**

Dr. Michael Klaus
Hanns Seidel Stiftung (Shandong) Chief Representative
德国汉斯·赛德尔基金会山东代表处首席代表:迈克尔·克劳斯博士

14:00-15:15
2022.05.07

会议ID:
822 1714 6586
密码: 060779



讲座语言: 英文 平台: Zoom
Language: English Platform: Zoom

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XJTLU students team

"Poverty alleviation and rural revitalization" are China's major policies for the development of rural areas, while "poverty eradication" is also the primary goal of the SDGs. Behind these grand political goals and human visions are numerous examples of projects that have been implemented in rural or poor areas. For many young people studying and living in cities, they may not be aware

of the changes that are taking place or the emergency challenges for those people living in rural areas. On May 7, under the support and coordination of Hanns Seidel Foundation Shanghai Office, Dr. Michael Klaus, Chief Representative of the Hanns Seidel Foundation in Shandong, shared young students his experience and engagement in the China-Germany cooperation project "Integrated Rural Development Model in China" in the past ten years. Dr. Klaus illustrated very detailed the transformation and sustainable development challenge of Rural China from the perspective of a foreign expert.



Sharing of Dr. Michael Klaus

This event attracted many students from different parts of China to communicate with Dr. Michael Klaus. Students raised many questions to communicate with him, such as "how to develop education in rural areas, how to retain talents, how to speed up infrastructure construction, how to planning to achieve territorial justice, what are the policies and practices to overcome challenges of rural development in Germany, how social organizations are engaged in rural development in Germany..." Due to the unprecedented enthusiasm of the participants, this event delayed half an hour than planned schedule. Through this seminar, students' passions were ignited and strengthened their determination to serve their hometown and countryside with more systemic view on sustainable development.

May 11, Dialogue with Swedish Expert: Reflections upon Sustainable Development in Sweden

STOCKHOLM+50
Consulate General of Sweden Shanghai
Swedish Society for Nature Conservation
oikos
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Hanns Seidel Stiftung

Stockholm+50 Only
One Earth Series
Events

Dialogue with Swedish Expert :
Reflections upon Sustainable
Development in Sweden
对话瑞典专家 :
关于瑞典可持续发展的思考

嘉宾
GUEST

Mr. Ulrik Westman
International Department at Swedish Society for Nature
Conservation (SSNC) Head of Policy
瑞典自然保护协会(SSNC)国际部政策主管 Ulrik Westman 先生

15:00-16:30
2022.05.11

讲座语言: 英文 平台: Zoom
Language: English Platform: Zoom

会议ID:
822 9295 8515
密码: 390976
扫码进入会议室
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KATLU STUDENTS IRAN

Mr. Ulrik Westman, Head of Policy Unit, International Department of Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC), was invited to introduce the sustainable development status, the actions and the challenges in Sweden to Chinese audiences. His introduction deepened our understanding of the transition journey of Sweden from an industrialized country with many external costs problems into a high-ranked country on SDG performance. This interactive dialogue helped Chinese students understand some well-established systems in Sweden to promote economic, social and environmental sustainability, such as the carbon tax policy initiated by SSNC in 1980s and the extra-curriculum programs for nature education across different age groups.

Conclusion

Since the announcement for the approval of RCE Suzhou in January 2022, RCE Suzhou has started close communication with various stakeholders in local community. The series events were initiated by Dr. Xuanwei Cao and received warm engagement from student organization Oikos Suzhou. These series events on commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Stockholm Human Environment Conference in 1972 show the broad perspectives of students in International Business School Suzhou of Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University and their passions on engaging in social dialogues to discuss and learn the frontier topics about the world in emergency. These events not only involved students from different Chinese universities, but also attracted some international students to participate in the exchange. To date, over 500 people have participated in the events. Different stakeholders in sustainability are also actively involved in the event, including the Swedish Embassy, Swedish companies, German Foundation, Chinese academic organizations and universities as well as Chinese local businesses and Chinese media.

In the current turbulent and challenging environment, it is more and more important to promote cross-cultural exchange especially among youth. We expect also more communications with other RCE Chapters in different parts of the world.

---Reporter: Jiahui Fan, Chair of Oikos Suzhou

Year 2 student in the major of TV Production at Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University)