



WUN Global China Group – Summary Report 2017-18

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The WUN Global China Group (GCG) has made significant progress in the past year. The research and education platforms are strengthened with new members from Greater China and around the world. There are new programs, initiatives and successful seed-funding success in the RDF. The productivity in research papers, grants, mobility and strategic workshops is increasing, with relevance to our knowledge partners and impact on policy options.

- **Research Programs**

Global China Group (GCG) has focused on several research projects. Each of the four Chinese member universities (including the newly joined RUC and NCKU) has achieved success in a leadership RDF project. Chinese university member-led projects include:

- a) ***Wind or Solar? The Political Economy of Fuel Competition between Renewables***
The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK)
- b) ***“The Belt and Road” Green Development: International Culture, Climate Change, Energy Investment and Environmental Protection***
Renmin University of China (RUC)
- c) ***Marriage Migrants in Asia***
National Cheng Kung University (NCKU)
- d) ***Social innovation and elderly care***
Zhejiang University (ZJU)

- **Research Highlight**

- a) **Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and Zhejiang University (ZJU)** have longer term membership with WUN. They have continued making great progress in their research after achieving a strong level of success in the previous year WUN RDF projects.

CUHK Prof Hon-ming Lam is leading the WUN project [“Impacts of Grain Legume Research and Development in Developing Countries”](#). He is a pioneer in enhancing the genetic make-up of soybean to help alleviate the looming problems in world food supply and security. An International Symposium was held at CUHK during 8-17 June 2017 where over 100 participants from 37 universities were brought together to formulate a blueprint for the future development of legume research.

ZJU Prof Gangmin Ning is leading the RDF project *“Assessment and Intervention Technologies for the Movement Ability of older Adults”*. The research team of Zhejiang have developed devices to assess the movement ability which may predict the falling risks of older adults, also collaborating with clinicians they have used the technology to evaluate the efficiency of Chinese acupuncture in treating osteoporosis. Under the collaboration framework between Zhejiang and Alberta, they have also made close contacts with the local

governments and companies to seek further support for sustainable development of the related technologies.

- b) **Renmin University of China (RUC) and National Cheng Kung University (NCKU)** are newly joined Chinese members. They are developing well and both won a WUN RDF in the 2017 round. RUC Prof Xu Qinhuo is leading a RDF project "*The Belt and Road*" *Green Development*, aiming to leverage the WUN's multi-national research collaborative platform to explore a green sustainable development strategy regarding the B&R's environmental impact, and to establish a research platform for innovation and policy support systems in the green Belt and Road. NCKU Prof Su-lin Yu is leading an RDF: "*Marriage Migrants in Asia*". They have launched a new *Marriage Migrants in Asia* website www.wun-mma.org and will provide a quarterly newsletter on this project. Please visit their [website](#) for further information.
- c) **The Global China Group is establishing a research program on Aging Health**, which will work in alliance with WUN and WUN-plus universities. It will also align with the WHO life-course program and aging health project. Zhejiang University has strengths in the area of aging health from the medical, health engineering and policy aspects and has taken leadership on this program. A Round Table discussion was held on this program in Zhejiang in October 2017.

- **Global China Group Activities and Events**

- a) **WUN Global Policy Research Group launched at Renmin University of China**

This initiative was proposed by Renmin University and was discussed at the AAG meeting in New York 2017. Fourteen universities indicated strong interest in engagement after a mapping study across WUN members. Three AAG members formed a working group, with WUN secretariat, to set up this policy research group. This group was recently launched (stage 1) at Renmin University of China on 24 March 2018 during the RUC-WUN Think Tank Conference. The launch (stage 2) will be completed at the WUN AGM in Perth on 25 May 2018. This group brings a global research and policy perspective from 23 leading Universities on six continents to assist in decision-making based on the intellectual resources of some of the world's top universities. These can build an intellectual community contributing through teamwork to an improved understanding and future for mankind.

- b) **RUC-WUN Think Tank Conference on "The Belt and Road - Green Development"**

This conference was held on 24 March in Beijing, co-organised by Renmin University of China (RUC) and WUN. Many VIP guests from China and other countries, along with academics from WUN and non-WUN universities attended the conference. Nine leading WUN universities sent representatives. The WUN Global Policy Research Group was launched (stage 1) at the conference. Stage 2 of the launch will be completed at the WUN AGM 2018 in Perth. At the end of the conference, WUN delegates held a separate meeting, chaired by the WUN Executive Director Prof John Hearn. The purpose was to review the main outcomes from the conference and propose actions to take forward this initiative. All participants at the conference contributed towards a fruitful discussion with outcomes that will be further explored in the follow up meetings in Perth during the WUN Conference and AGM 2018. Please visit [WUN website](#) for further information.

- c) **CUHK Conference on Global Sustainability and the Belt and Road Initiative**

The International Conference on Global Sustainability and the Belt and Road Initiative was held on 27 April 2018 at CUHK. It brought together scholars, policy-makers, members of think tanks, professionals, and business people from Hong Kong, Mainland China, the Belt

and Road regions, and all over the world, to share research endeavours and exchange ideas. The objectives of the conference were to evaluate policy coordination in the areas of finance, energy, and sustainable development in the Belt and Road regions; to study the opportunities and challenges in connection with sustainable development projects in the Belt and Road regions, and the implementation of such projects; and to foster and strengthen various academic, business, cultural, and social linkages between China and the Belt and Road countries, with a special emphasis on Hong Kong's special roles, functions, and contributions. For further information, please visit the [conference website](#).

- **WUN AGM 2018 engagement**

With regard to the GCG activities at the WUN AGM in Perth, the China Group will have an organisational round table of the GCG steering group during a working dinner on the 21st May to review the previous GCG Strategic Plan and to discuss the next step for development and the future directions. The China Group members will join in with the four Global Challenge Research Groups' academic workshops. The China Group planning dinner will be held alongside the Global Africa Group and the Global Policy Research Group working dinners. The second half of the respective events will be an open discussion on interaction between the three groups, seeking collaboration and synergies.