



同濟大學
TONGJI UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

THE MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, LAND AND SEA (IMELS)
OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC

and

THE TONGJI UNIVERSITY SHANGHAI

(hereinafter jointly referred to as the "Parties")

on

THE SINO ITALIAN CENTER FOR SUSTAINABILITY (SICES) MANAGEMENT
SCHEME

BEARING IN MIND that in the year 2000 the Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea (IMELS) of the Italian Republic launched a Cooperation Program for environmental protection establishing cooperation relationships with several scientific institutions and universities of the People's Republic of China;

the Framework Agreement for the establishment of a Sino-Italian Center for Sustainability ("SICES"), signed between IMELS and Tongji University, on 19 May 2012;

the Agreement on the Actions to Improve the Energy Efficiency Performance of the Yunchou Building in Tongji University, Siping Campus signed among the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea (IMELS), the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) and Tongji University (TONGJI), on 12 March 2014;

the Joint Declaration signed between IMELS and Tongji University, on April 21st 2016, on promoting joint scientific research projects in collaboration with Italian universities and research centers in the field of sustainable development and on

establishing a networking platform to strengthen the collaboration and dialogue between universities, research centers and enterprises under the framework of “SICES”

WHEREAS the Parties acknowledge the interest at enhancing the existing collaboration between Italian Universities and Tongji University, as well as at fostering the creation of new partnerships with other universities, and at facilitating cooperation initiatives in the field of greener cities and sustainable development;

the Yunchou building construction works have been completed and SICES has been inaugurated on June 17th 2017;

the Parties strive to set up management scheme of SICES at Yunchou Building in Shanghai Tongji University;

The Parties have entered into the following common understanding:

Article 1 scope

The Parties aim at promoting SICES as a center of excellence for the research and innovation on the development of green technologies and solutions for Green Cities and in advancing in Sustainable Development for the improvement of the quality of the urban environment, tackle climate change, and wellbeing and health in cities and to actively participate in global environmental governance through China-Italy cooperation in the framework of several national and international development scenarios and strategies, including:

- UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development
- Paris Agreement
- Habitat III – United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development
- Shanghai Declaration
- Greener Cities Partnership
- Healthy Shanghai 2030 Plan
- Shanghai 2040 Master Plan
- ISCN - International Sustainable Campus Network

Article 2 Areas of cooperation

The activities promoted through SICES will be related to the following thematic areas:

- Climate Change Adaptation / Mitigation
- Smart cities and prevention of environmental disasters in the built environment

- Urban energy planning and transition towards sustainable cities
- Resource Efficiency/Circular Economy
- Waste Management and Polluted Soils
- Sustainable and Safe Mobility and Transportation
- Water Use, Quality and Management
- Ecosystem Services and Green Infrastructures
- Sustainable food safety/Smart Agriculture in urban and peri-urban areas
- Urban Air Quality
- Health cities and aging society
- Urban morphology of contemporary cities: Regeneration and Renovation of existing assets
- Finance Models for Greener Cities
- Urban Environmental Governance and Sustainability Indicators for Cities
- Participatory Approaches to Urban Environmental Planning

Article 3 **Activities**

The Parties will promote activities and initiatives to build up a vast network involving different actors:

- Academia
- R&D community
- Research foundations and associations
- Representatives of some Cities and Municipalities
- Policy-makers
- Companies and business organizations

The Parties intend to:

- create a place of co-working among Italian and Chinese visiting professors, researchers and students of Italian and Chinese Universities in order to encourage the creation of partnerships and interdisciplinary exchange for the development of joint research programs;
- promote the coordinated involvement of experts and students active on various initiatives in order to facilitate networking and to create synergies between the various programs and plans in place;
- encourage, following a multi-stakeholder approach, the development of activities carried out also by other stakeholders active in Shanghai such as, for example, companies and business organizations, foundations and research centers, associations, start-ups;
- create partnerships for jointly addressing European calls (H2020, EU-China Sustainable urbanistic, SWITCH-Asia, etc.) and Chinese calls (MOST – Ministry on Science and Technology, NNSF – National Natural to represent a place where the best practices and the Italian quality can be enhanced and shared with Chinese actors.

Taking into account the legal frameworks of each of the Parties and their national obligations, the implementation of programs, projects and activities will be based on principles of impartiality, equality, reciprocity and common interest.

Article 4

Management and Co-ordination

In order to ensure the efficient implementation of the provisions of this Memorandum, the Parties will establish a Steering Committee (SC) and a Scientific Committee (SciCo) under the provisions of Article 5.

The Steering Committee (SC) will be composed by two representatives from the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea and two from the Tongji University.

The Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea will be represented by the Director General of the Directorate for “Sustainable Development, Environmental Damage, European Union and International Affairs” and one expert.

The Tongji University will be represented by the Vice Rector of Tongji University and one expert.

The Steering Committee will provide general direction and advise of cooperation, approve work programs, supervise and support the cooperation activities, take financial decision for the activities.

During its first meeting, the SC shall:

- adopt rules and procedures and establish the frequency of the meetings;
- approve the medium term work plan, including projects and activities, as applicable.

In the subsequent meetings the SC shall:

- co-ordinate the implementation of the co-operation in the areas specified in article 2;
- systematically review and assess the status, progress, results achieved, and lessons learned of the co-operation activities;
- approve the yearly final balance and provisional budget;

The Steering Committee will meet within six months after the signature of the present Memorandum.

The Scientific Committee (SciCo) is established as an advisory board to the Steering Committee and proposes scientific priorities and activities to set out the medium term work plan; recommends policies and procedures, for the dissemination of best practices developed through the Centre, research programs involving possible external interested parties; monitors and formulates guidelines to the SC on the implementation of the work plan.

The Scientific Committee (SciCo) will be composed by four elective members from the Italian Universities, four elective members from Tongji University relevant departments and one representative of the General Consulate of Italy in Shanghai. The Scientific Committee’s members will remain in office for two years.

The Parties shall appoint the Chinese and Italian members of the SciCo who will prepare a medium term work plan to be submitted for approval by the Steering Committee.

Decisions of the governing bodies shall be taken by consensus.

Article 5
Regulation of Space Use

Tongji University appoints the Sino Italian Campus as its implementing entity in charge of the daily management of the whole Yunchou Building, where SICES is located on the 3rd floor.

The use of the SICES space at Yunchou Building shall comply with the “Regulations for the Management of Public Housing Resources of Tongji University in Shanghai - China” and the specific regulations issued by the Sino Italian Campus and approved by the SC.

Article 6
Budget and Costs sharing

Any financial resources regarding programs, activities, and projects under this Memorandum will be borne by the available budgeted resources of the Signatories and will not, in any event, create additional expenditures for the State budgets of the Italian Republic.

The Parties will agree on the financial coverage for the activities and establish a mechanism, under the provisions of the respective national law, for granting transparency of expenditures, accounting and audit.

Each year, the Steering Committee will approve the estimated budget and the final balance respectively by the end of October and March.

The Parties agree that the Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea of the Italian Republic will cover the yearly running costs and the management fee of the SICES on the 3rd floor. The yearly management fees of the 3rd floor will amount maximum to 180.000 RMB (about 24.000 €) net for the whole duration of the present Memorandum, while the running costs will be financed each year according to the approved estimated budget. Dissimilarities between the financed budget and actual costs will be balanced the following year.

Article 7
Interpretative divergences

The Parties shall settle amicably, through direct consultations and negotiations, any divergence arising out of or relating to the interpretation and implementation of the present Memorandum.

Article 8
Law in force

This Memorandum will be implemented in conformity with applicable international law, and pursuant to the national legislations of the Italian Republic and of the People’s

Republic of China, as well as to any other obligation arising from the Italian Republic's membership of the European Union.

Article 9

Final Provisions

The present Memorandum takes effect on the date of signing and will remain valid for three years (3 years), unless one of the Parties notifies the other in writing, with at least six months' prior notice, of its intention to terminate it.

The provisions of this Memorandum may be consensually amended by the Parties in writing.

Termination of the present Memorandum shall have no effect on ongoing co-operation projects, and / or on initiatives already agreed upon by the Parties.

Done at Shanghai on 18th May 2018 in two originals, in the English language.

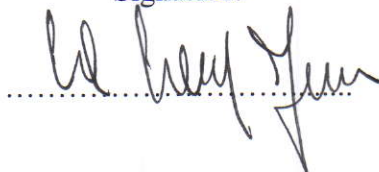
For the Ministry for the
Environment, Land and
Sea of the Italian Republic

For the Tongji University
Shanghai

Francesco La Camera

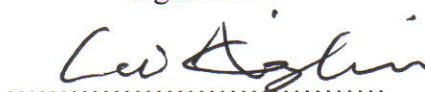
Prof. Lei Xinghui

Signature:



Handwritten signature of Francesco La Camera, written in black ink over a dotted line.

Signature:



Handwritten signature of Prof. Lei Xinghui, written in black ink over a dotted line.