

CHINA EUROPE Water Platform

China Europe Cooperation on Sponge Cities CECoSC

Lot3 Water and Urbanization



The CECoS project

Transition of cities towards resilience and sustainability

How to make the most of our
investments in stormwater management?



Huge and complex task requiring new
skills, technologies and products

1. **Decision Support Tools for SCC**
=> Balancing blue green & grey (traditional)
drainage systems
2. **Economic evaluation blue green
infrastructure**
3. **Monitoring blue green infrastructure**
4. **Co-creation and community involvement**
5. **Governance**

CEWP PI Lot #3 Water & Urbanisation CECoSC Partnership

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EU Partners	CN Partners
<p>Netherlands</p>  <p>Rijkswaterstaat Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management</p>	 <p>中国城市规划设计研究院 CHINA ACADEMY OF URBAN PLANNING & DESIGN</p>
<p>Denmark</p>   <p>UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN</p>	 <p>北京市水务局 BEIJING WATER AUTHORITY</p>
<p>Finland</p>  <p>TURKU AMK TURKU UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES</p>	
<p>Sweden</p>   <p>Research Institutes of Sweden Onderzoeksinstituut</p>	
<p>Associate Cities: Amsterdam, Copenhagengen, Gothenburg and Turku</p>	<p>Pilot Cities: Beijing Changde (Hunan)</p>

Activities and Planning 2021

- Finalization of demonstrations in Pilot Cities, Beijing and Changde
- Webinar on Monitoring, April 2021
- Webinar Series CEWP Business Program on Urban Water Management, Q2 2021
- Publication of 2nd Policy Brief, May 2021
- Webinar on Co-creation and Financing, June 2021
- Webinar on Outcomes of CECoS Policy Dialogue, September 2021
- Publication of Technical Reports and Final Policy Brief, October 2021
- Extension until Q3 2022
 - Dissemination activities in China and Europe
 - CEWP-PI integration

Policy brief on CEWP PI China | Europe
Cooperation on Sponge Cities
(CECoSC)

2nd version May 2021

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Reader's guidance

This Policy Brief aims to identify the knowledge gaps and associated challenges China and Europe are facing to effectively address the complex task of Sponge City transformation. It is a living document and aims to capture the outcomes of the 'China Europe Water Platform Partnership Instrument project China-Europe Cooperation on Sponge Cities' (CEWP PI CECoS) project. Hence, its content will change over time. The conclusions and recommendations reflect the interpretations and analyses, which have emerged during the project (from 2019 to 2021)¹. The 'Policy Brief process' will have two final outputs: a consolidated version of the policy brief as project document and an Executive Summary that will hold the key recommendations.

The policy recommendations are a result of a concerted effort between the partners, with complementary material provided by external experts and discussions with representatives of the participating cities (2 from China and 4 from EU). The Policy Brief process (see also Appendix G) feeds the dialogue on the outcomes of CECoS, which sits under the umbrella of CEWP. The ultimate aim of this Policy Brief process is to

¹ Activities of the project are [sponge](#), joint workshops and City-to-City Learning (C2CL) events

Policy Brief, Work in Progress

1. **Decision support tools for the Sponge City Concept:** with an emphasis on tools that support the often difficult choice of balancing blue-green-infrastructure based (BGI-based) solutions with the traditional Grey Infrastructure.
2. **Economic evaluation of Blue-Green Infrastructure:** tools for BGI and SCC based designs.
3. **Financing BGI & Sponge Cities:** developing a business case as well as proper financing modalities (incl. Public Private Partnerships)
4. **Monitoring and documentation Blue-Green Infrastructure & Sponge Cities:** including performance metrics that capture the total value of BGI and SCC solutions
5. **Co-creation and Community Involvement:** involving citizens as well as other stakeholders in sponge city projects
6. **Governance:** especially focusing on cross departmental collaboration and mainstreaming of BGI and SCC in actual policy trajectories and projects

Policy Brief Key Messages

1. Embrace a systems perspective across spatial scales and disciplines

- A holistic, systems approach should be adopted
- The SCC scope should be expanded with new performance indicators to address this broader scope
- A city should be considered as a part of its catchment to acknowledge scale interdependencies to manage drinking water supply, groundwater, subsidence
- An integrative assessment to support comprehensive planning (align multi-sectoral planning processes) will be required

2. Adopt a long- term view

- specific conclusions

3. Measure Impact

- specific conclusions

4. Improve inclusiveness

- specific conclusions

5. Financing BGI: connecting multiple benefits, multiple stakeholders, and multiple domains.

- specific conclusions

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Thank-you

Gerard de Vries

Ministry of Infrastructure and Water
Management, Rijkswaterstaat

Team Leader CEWP PI Lot #3 CECoS

CEWP 13th JSC Meeting Zoom on line 7 June 2021

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