



Activity Title and Number: Seminar on the Public Procurement Study; A299-C5

Beneficiary: Ministry of Finance (MOF) and Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM)

Location and Date: Beijing ; 16 October 2013

Stakeholders: European Commission Directorate-Generals for Trade and for Internal Market and Services (DG Trade and DG MARKT)

Brief Activity Report

Relevance and Impact

The Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA) is a plurilateral and legally binding agreement under the auspices of the World Trade Organization (WTO), focusing on public procurement. In December 2012, China presented a third revised offer of accession to the GPA with negotiations between China and the GPA parties are ongoing. Two broad strands of debate have emerged: 1) the scope of the offer, sectors and entities included, and the trade opportunities which will be open to domestic and foreign businesses when China accedes to membership of the GPA; and 2) the requirements of a regulatory framework necessary to match the level of coverage of existing GPA members. Throughout the first half of 2013, EUCTP II has supported a comparative study (A155-C5) to analyse European and Chinese public procurement practices, outlining relevant case studies in the utilities sector and exploring the role of state-owned enterprises (SOE) in China.

Activity Description

EUCTP II organised the seminar, attended by approximately 60 participants from different Chinese authorities' procuring departments, to discuss the outcomes of the comparative study, reform directions and China's next GPA accession offer. Dr. WANG Ping (Nottingham University, UK) presented the study's results and policy recommendations, upon which representatives of both DG Markt and MOF commented on and discussed.



*Dr WANG Ping presenting the findings of the study
"A Comparative Analysis of Utilities Procurement
in the EU and China"*

Results and Dissemination

- ✓ The findings and policy recommendations were disseminated across a wide range of officials from Chinese authorities' procuring entities
- ✓ Officials from MOF and MOFCOM constructively discussed the findings of the report. Discussions included the significant buying power of SOEs, which impacts the domestic market, and identified corruption as a serious concern.