



Activity Title and Number: Study assignment on the blueprint for infrastructure construction in Europe and the role of development financial institutions A412-C1

Beneficiary: People's Bank of China

Location and Date: UK, Belgium, Luxembourg, 16-25 September 2015

Stakeholders: European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), H.M. Treasury Infrastructure UK, Bank of England, Department for International Development, European Investment Bank (EIB), Central Bank of Luxembourg, Société Nationale de Crédit et d'Investissement (SNCI), National Bank of Belgium, Federal Treasury, International & European Financial Affairs, DG ECFIN and DG Trade

Brief Activity Report

Relevance and Impact

China has actively participated in several international financial organizations, such as the World Bank, the IMF and some regional or sub-regional development banks. The People's Bank of China (PBOC) has been exploring opportunities for joining more international financial institutions such as the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and further cooperation with regional development banks including the European Investment Bank (EIB).

In this context, the PBOC was interested in learning about the demand, difficulties and planning of infrastructure constructions in European countries in order to inform China how to take part in infrastructure constructions in Europe as well as in other regions. Since the PBOC is the major shareholder of the newly established Silk Road Fund designed to finance the China-proposed "Belt and Road" (New Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road) initiatives, it was helpful for PBOC to learn the experiences of European financial institutions in designing and operating the Silk Road Fund for improved cooperation with countries in a vast part of Asia, Europe and Africa. In addition, the activity enhanced the discussion for the development of financial activities between PBOC and European financial institutions to continuously expand bilateral cooperation.

Activity Description

The 10 delegates from PBOC and SAFE were led by Ms. CAO Li, Deputy Director General of the PBOC International Department. The delegation visited the UK, Luxembourg and Belgium and met with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), Department for International Development (DFID), H.M. Treasury Infrastructure UK, European Investment Bank (EIB), Central Bank of Luxembourg, Febelfin (the Belgian Financial Sector Federation), and the European Commission. Ms. HUANG Danhan, Key expert from the EUCTP joined the meetings in Luxembourg and Belgium.

Exchanges between the EC and the PBOC delegation



Results and Dissemination

The Chinese delegation:

- ✓ studied the role of Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), such as EIB and EBRD in facilitating infrastructure development in Europe, and the experience of EU member states in financing infrastructure projects, with special emphasis on Public and Private Partnership (PPP);
- ✓ explored the possibilities of joining the EBRD and expressed interests in building up synergies between the Belt and Road Initiative and the Juncker Plan;
- ✓ discussed with their European counterparts potential cooperation opportunities in the context of EUCTP II;
- ✓ exchanged views with the European Commission on how to promote cooperation in the future.