

Press Release

Date: 20.11.2008

China Project successfully completed!

by Andrea Schuster

Berlin/Jishou. Between January and October 2008, ETLog Health EnviroTech & Logistics GmbH successfully carried out a health-related waste-management project in the autonomous Chinese province of Xiangxi. The project was supported by the DEG - *Deutsche Investitions- und Entwicklungsgesellschaft mbH* within the framework of a Public Private Partnership (PPP) Program from the Federal ministry for economic co-operation and development (BMZ).

With a population of 1.3 million, China is the most populous nation in the world and in terms of land surface, the fourth largest in the world. China's economy has also undergone a boom. The rural areas have however not profited from this trend to the same extent as the cities. The necessary modernization measures are to be carried out here in order to guarantee the local population a higher standard of living. The current reflation packet from the Chinese government should support this aim. As the state news agency Xinhua reported on Sunday 9.11.08, investments of up to 442 billion Euros are to be made by 2010. The money is to be invested in the construction of houses as well as in infrastructure, environment and reconstruction projects over the next two years.

ETLog Health EnviroTech & Logistics GmbH has initiated a PPP project for the disposal of hospital waste in the Xiangxi region. The project was supported by funds from the Public Private Partnership-Program (PPP) of the Federal ministry for economic co-operation and development. PPP funds have been provided by the DEG, one of the largest European development financiers in order to supplement finance and consultancy services for private firms, which invest in threshold and developing countries. The aim of the project is the implementation and demonstration of the operation of a central waste-disposal centre for hospital waste, based on the example of the prefecture of Xiangxi in Hunan province.

The DEG has been active in China since 1985 and has supported 84 PPP projects in China with up to 10.6 million Euros since the beginning of the PPP programme in 1999. This was matched by 17.6 million Euros from private firms, as well as 1.5 million Euros as "contribution 3." The particular focus of the project was placed on environmental and climate protection. Moreover, the DEG has provided around 552 million Euros in investment from around 80 private firms. The current portfolio comprises a volume of over 335 million Euros. The processing industry and infrastructure are sectors in which the DEG has a particular focus.

The opening of the treatment centre was preceded by training measures for the regulation authorities, (Xiangxi Environmental Protection Bureau), health-care authorities, (Xiangxi Health Bureau), the waste producers (hospitals in the Xiangxi prefecture) as well as for the transport and disposal firms. 18 employees from the environmental authority were trained in waste classification, the consignment note procedure, drier qualification as well as in transport and processing monitoring.

A standard handbook was drawn up based on the special requirements for steam disinfection and Chinese national law. The relevant training content of the project was summarized in a 150 page handbook. After the translation of the book it was distributed amongst the participating hospitals. As a result, both the waste producers as well as the monitoring authorities now have a comprehensive resource to help with their daily work. In addition to the internationally valid standards for hospital waste, the Chinese classification system, the current handling and disposal procedure and the tasks of the parties involved are defined and explained. The project was concluded with a workshop was carried out on 27.09.2008 in connection with the opening of the treatment centre.

The DEG, part of the KfW banking group finances investment of private firms in developing and threshold countries. As one of the largest European development financiers, it works for the development of private structures in order to make a contribution to sustainable economic growth and improved standards of living.

ETLog Health EnviroTech & Logistics GmbH is a specialist provider in the healthcare system. The Berlin-based firm acts worldwide as an advisor to clinics, institutions and ministries regarding the disposal of hospital waste, waste management technology, waste water and aids prevention.

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