



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Chinese-U.S. Youth Call for 'Shared Future' With Climate Solutions Exchange

Cancun, MX (11-30-10) – Chinese and U.S. young people today will hold the first in a series of collaborative events to promote mutual understanding between their two cultures during the United Nations climate talks in Cancun.

The grassroots collaboration entitled "China-U.S. Youth Climate Exchange" seeks to educate youth on the intricacies of Sino-American climate policy and innovative climate solutions during the UN negotiations through Dec. 10 and to help establish relationships beyond the climate summit.

Today's workshop, "Hello, Nihao & The Road Forward" will take place at 1 p.m. at the Climate Change Village, Forum 100. Directions can be found at <http://cc2010.mx/en/villacc/venue/>.

The new collaboration includes workshop, a joint blog, shared actions and a "diplomacy dinner" to build trust among U.S.-Chinese youth.

Recognizing the critical role that China and the United States share in solving the climate crisis, seven youth from each country reached out in advance of the international climate negotiations to lay the foundations for stronger Sino-American cooperation on climate and energy solutions.

"In the midst of the greatest challenge facing our generation, we believe it is our responsibility as future leaders to establish this dialogue now," said Jared Schy, a U.S. organizer and member of the Cascade Climate Network, a U.S.-based youth advocacy organization.

The joint blog, "China-U.S. Youth Climate Dialogue" (chinausyouthclimate.weebly.com), will feature posts by U.S. and Chinese youth on their accounts of the UN negotiations and experiences working together.

The second workshop, "Reflecting and Future Collaboration" will be held at 7 p.m. at the Climate Change Village Thursday, Dec. 8, where industry experts, government officials and NGO advocates are invited to sit with participants.

The China-U.S. Youth Climate Exchange will conclude with a dinner Thursday, Dec. 10, with a large potluck intended to transition relations from political to personal levels and celebrate young people's work together in Cancun.

"We are demonstrating an innovative model of cooperation on climate change to our governments," said Yiting Wang of China Youth Climate Action Network. "In doing so, we hope

to induce more cooperation amongst our governments and more aggressive action in creating and taking leadership on climate and energy solutions."

Together with several of her fellow Chinese organizers, Wang was involved in the Sino-American workshop put on by the Chinese Youth Delegation during last year's UN climate negotiations in Copenhagen. The workshop, "Our Shared Future: Hello, Nihao," was praised by Al Gore as a model for the two countries' leaders.

The youth organizations involved with this year's collaboration include: China Youth Climate Action Network, Peking University CDM Club, Tsinghua Green Student Association, China Dialogue, Sierra Student Coalition, SustainUS, Cascade Climate Network and Golden Bridges.

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SustainUS is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization of young people advancing sustainable development and youth empowerment in the United States. Through proactive education and advocacy at the policy-making and grassroots levels, SustainUS is building a future in which all people recognize the inherent equality and interdependence of social, economic, and environmental sustainability.