CHINA ASSOCIATION FOR NGO COOPERATION

CANGO Newsletter

Newsletter | June 2026
Issue 2 of 2026, Total issue 114

EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to the second issue of our 2026 newsletter. This edition highlights CANGO's international engagements — from deepening partnerships with Antonio Meneghetti Foundation (AMF) and facilitating EU-China civil society exchanges on climate and gender, to hosting a community-led climate adaptation photo exhibition in Beijing. We also share key policy updates on China's human rights and poverty reduction efforts, introduce a new member spotlight, and preview upcoming opportunities for regional and global collaboration. We hope you enjoy the read.

CANGO NEWS

- EU-China Civil Society Exchange: Climate, Gender, and Beyond
- CANGO deepens partnership with Antonio Meneghetti Foundation at Beijing dinner.
- "Living with Change" photo exhibition opens in Beijing, showcasing community-led climate adaptation across rural China.
- CANGO at Summer Davos 2026

POLICY NEWS

- China releases National Human Rights Action Plan (2026–2030).
- Global Partnership for Poverty Alleviation and Development launched in Beiing with 53 countries and 9 international organizations.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Beijing Tongzhou Canal Walk Cultural Exchange Center

A non-profit dedicated to canal heritage, innovation, and global exchange, based at the Beijing terminus of the Grand Canal.

As the Secretariat of the World Canal Cities "Canal Walk" Action Organizing Committee, they connect canal cities globally. Key initiatives include the UN-backed "Canal Walk" Youth Action Framework (2026–2030) and the AI-powered "Grand Tour of the Grand Canal" educational platform.

UPCOMING ENGAGEMENT

Open Call | China & Southeast Asia NTFP NGO Network
CANGO invites grassroots NGOs in East and Southeast Asia to join the regional network on NTFP (Non-Timber Forest Products) and climate resilience.

Forus SSTC Report Launch | Virtual | July 7, 2026
CANGO contributes a case study to this report on civil society in South-South and Triangular Cooperation.

UN HLPF 2026 | New York, USA | July 2026
CANGO is tracking entry points around SDG 5 & 13 and could help connect interested partners.

Asia-Pacific Civil Society Conference | Jinan, China | September 2026
CANGO is leading the parallel forum on Regional Governance and Multilateralism, bringing together civil society voices from across the Asia-Pacific.

Bangkok Climate Action Week 2026 | Bangkok, Thailand | September 20–27, 2026
CANGO has submitted a side event proposal on climate, gender, and youth. Selection results pending.

17th East Asia Civil Society Forum | Seoul, South Korea | Late October 2026
The forum is expected to focus on AI and civil society.

Civil BRICS 2026 | New Delhi, India | November 2026
CANGO could help connect partners with civil society counterparts.

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CANGO NEWS

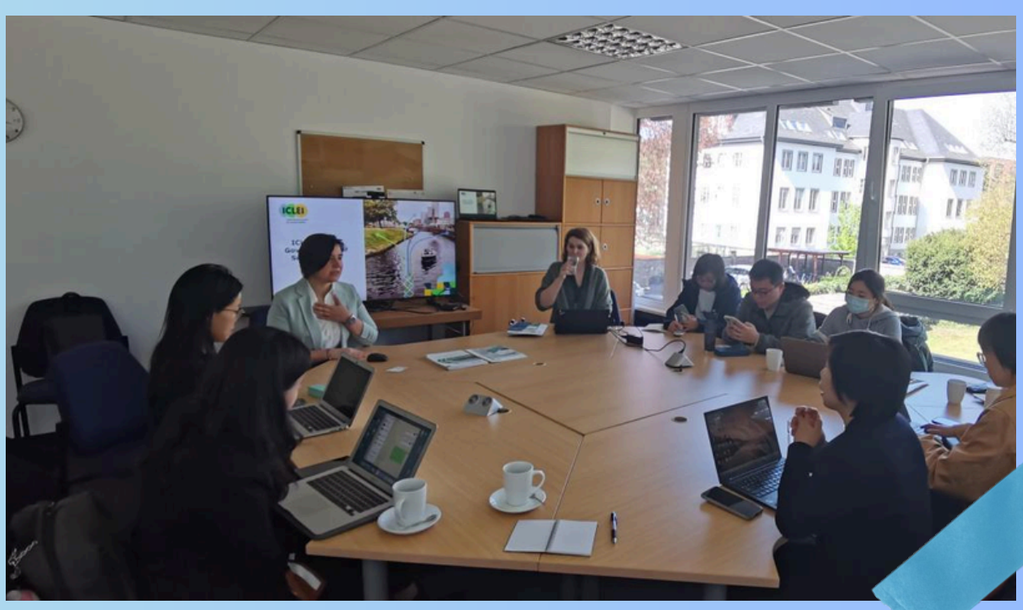
EU-China Civil Society Exchange: Climate, Gender, and Beyond

April 2026 | Berlin & Brussels

In mid-April 2026, CANGO facilitated a study visit to Germany and Belgium for representatives from Chinese civil society organizations working on climate and gender issues. The visit was part of CANGO's ongoing effort to strengthen EU-China civil society exchanges and support Chinese NGOs in engaging more effectively in global governance and sustainable development.



Chinese NGOs Visit European Parliament



Exchange Session with ICLEI

What We Did

The delegation held a series of in-depth exchanges with European partners, including:

- Bread for the World (Germany)
- Deutsche Gesellschaft fuir Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
- ClientEarth (Brussels)
- CONCORD - European NGO Confederation for Relief and Development
- ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability
- European Parliament (members and staff)

Discussions centered around four shared priorities:

1. Climate adaptation and resilience
2. Gender equality in development practice
3. Organizational capacity building and institutional resilience
4. Civil society participation in multilateral governance

What We Shared

Chinese representatives presented case studies and practical experience from their work in green development and gender-responsive climate action. These examples reflect China's growing pool of grassroots climate practice and a genuine interest in bringing these lessons into international dialogue. European partners offered insights into how their networks navigate advocacy, funding,and cross-sector collaboration at the EU level - and where they see entry points for joint action.

What Comes Next

This visit was not a one-off. It is part of a broader effort by CANGO to:

- Build sustained channels for EU-China civil society dialogue
- Support Chinese CSOs in developing their international engagement capacity
- Translate local practice into globally relevant knowledge
- Foster people-to-people ties that contribute to the SDGs



CANGO and Antonio Meneghetti Foundation Deepen Partnership at Beijing Dinner

May 11, 2026 | Beijing

CANGO joined a dinner hosted by Antonio Meneghetti Foundation (AMF) during the foundation's China business delegation visit. The event brought together Chinese and international guests to explore cross-cultural exchange and civil society cooperation.

A Growing Partnership

CANGO and AMF first connected at the 2024 UN Summit of the Future, deepened their dialogue at a UNESCO seminar in Paris (2025), and reunited in Beijing this month. "Every step has been solid and sincere," Zhao noted.
CANGO Chair Zhao Xiling delivered the opening address. She described CANGO's mission as "connecting Chinese and international civil society for sustainable global development" — helping Chinese NGOs engage globally and bringing international partners to China to tackle shared challenges. Over 30 years, CANGO has worked on poverty alleviation, climate change, and youth and women's development.

On mutual learning

"True exchange is not one-way," Zhao said. "It's not 'I speak, you listen.' It's 'we think together, we act together.'"

Looking ahead

Zhao proposed three areas for future collaboration: green development, youth empowerment and education, and international cultural and educational exchange. She also suggested regular mutual visits, experience-sharing, and joint programming — with a focus on multilateral platforms like the UN to connect resources and build sustained cooperation mechanisms.
Zhao closed with a personal note to the visiting Brazilian delegation: "From Brazil to China, across 10,000 km — but because we share a passion for education and human development, we can feel close. I hope you take back not just photos, but understanding and connection."

About Antonio Meneghetti Foundation

Antonio Meneghetti Foundation works in education, culture, and sustainable development. This dinner marks another step in an ongoing dialogue between CANGO and AMF. Going forward, both sides will explore joint initiatives in sustainable development, youth leadership, and international education.



Event hosted by the Antonio Meneghetti Foundation (AMF). From left to right: Li Yanling, Director of Social Enterprise Cooperation; Chair Zhao Xiling; and Vice Chair Wang Xiangyi.

CANGO NEWS

"Living with Change": Community-Led Climate Adaptation Photo Exhibition Opens in Beijing

May 22, 2026 | Beijing

CANGO marked the close of its three-year "Harmony between Mountains and Rivers" climate adaptation project with a public photo exhibition, opening on International Biodiversity Day at Beijing's 798 Art District. Featuring over 100 documentary photographs, the exhibition documents five rural communities across northern China and their journey adapting to droughts, snowstorms, and glacial melt — from grassland restoration and water-saving farming to community cooperation and skill-building.

Over three years, the project explored community-led solutions across dryland farming, pastoral areas, and plateau ecosystems — delivering four key outcomes: agricultural biodiversity conservation, smart water systems to address drought, stabilized pastoral livelihoods, and enhanced resilience in high-altitude communities.

The exhibition is organized around three themes: "Millennium Farming Heritage — Resilient Seeds," "Forage Storage — Pastoral Stability," and "Highland Stewardship — Grass and Ice in Balance." Together, they offer a human-centered view of climate adaptation, inviting broader public attention to rural communities on the frontlines of climate change.

Organized by CANGO with support from Oxfam (Hong Kong) Beijing Office. On view at Ying Gallery, 798 Art District, Beijing.









The images capture local residents spreading grass seeds at 4,000 meters above sea level, repairing stone terraces, and reviving traditional farming knowledge — practical responses to a changing climate.

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CANGO at Summer Davos 2026

June 23–25, 2026 | Dalian, China

The 2026 Summer Davos Forum brought together over 1,800 leaders from business, government, and academia across 90 countries and regions under the theme "Innovation at Scale." Chinese Premier Li Qiang and heads of government from six countries attended. CANGO participated for the first time, with Secretary-General Wang Xiangyi representing the organization. During the forum, Wang attended the opening ceremony and joined round-table discussions on "Designing AI for Equity," "Jobs and Opportunities for the Next Generation," and "APEC and ASEAN: Toward Strategic Alignment."



Main Venue Signage of the Summer Davos 2026



Opening Ceremony of the Summer Davos 2026



Networking and exchange with WEF Global Shapers

Engagement

Wang noted that the World Economic Forum operates as an international platform committed to "improving the state of the world" — bringing together a multi-stakeholder community of business, government, and civil society, including NGOs, Global Shapers, and social entrepreneurs. Through high-trust, high-level dialogue, it drives practical projects across 80+ global issues and publishes over 150 authoritative reports annually, providing knowledge and frameworks for global, regional, and industry transformation.

Three Reflections for Peer Organizations

Drawing on this experience, Wang offers three suggestions for CSOs looking to engage:

- First, actively embed in multi-stakeholder communities and define your unique value. CSOs can apply to join the forum's NGO community, contribute grassroots expertise to global issue discussions, and shift from observer to contributor.
- Second, align with thematic projects that connect to national development priorities. Build relationships through pre-forum meetings and workshops, and pursue joint action on forum initiatives aligned with strategies such as carbon neutrality and rural revitalization.
- Third, leverage the forum's knowledge products to build professional credibility. Co-publish or cite research reports, participate in case study collections, and strengthen civil society's voice in international standards and policy discussions.

China Releases Fifth National Human Rights Action Plan (2026–2030)

On June 11, 2026, China released its fifth National Human Rights Action Plan (2026–2030) at the Global Human Rights Governance Forum in Beijing, co-hosted by the State Council Information Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Over 400 participants from more than 100 countries and international organizations attended. CANGO was present at the forum.



A Broader Definition of Human Rights

The Action Plan covers eight chapters, spanning economic, social and cultural rights, civil rights, environmental rights, emerging digital rights, and corporate human rights responsibilities. Its scope reflects a comprehensive vision of human rights — one that extends well beyond conventional framings to encompass food security, housing, vocational development, environmental protection, women's empowerment, and civil society participation in global governance. For many organizations, the plan's priorities will feel familiar: much of what civil society does every day is already part of this human rights agenda, and now has clearer policy grounding to stand on.

Three Areas of Note for Civil Society

The plan includes several provisions of direct relevance to civil society organizations. On environment, it calls for civil society to play a bridging role in ecological governance and volunteer service systems. On business and human rights, it incorporates — for the first time in a Chinese national human rights action plan — a framework referencing the UN Guiding Principles, setting responsible business conduct and human rights due diligence as expected standards for Chinese enterprises operating internationally. On global governance, it encourages Chinese civil society organizations to engage more actively in multilateral mechanisms and international human rights dialogue.

Read More

Click here to view the news report.
Click here to view the full poster.
Click here to view the video clip.

POLICY NEWS

International Partnership on Poverty Alleviation Launched at Beijing Forum

On May 27, China, together with 53 other countries and nine international organizations, launched the Global Partnership for Poverty Alleviation and Development (GPPAD) at the 2026 Global Poverty Reduction and Development Forum in Beijing.



Participants exchange ideas by WANG JING/CHINA DAILY



Participants exchange ideas by WANG JING/CHINA DAILY

Why It Matters

The launch comes at a critical moment. According to UNDP, 1.1 billion people across 109 countries live in multidimensional poverty, and nearly 890 million face the compounding burdens of poverty and severe climate hazards. With UN 2030 SDG progress under pressure, the forum sent a clear message: international cooperation and experience sharing are more urgent than ever.

What the Partnership Stands For

GPPAD encourages members to pursue poverty reduction strategies suited to their own national realities, while facilitating experience exchange and exploring pathways to eradicate poverty at its roots. It welcomes participation from governments, international organizations, the private sector, academia, and civil society. Vice-Premier Liu Guozhong committed China to supporting GPPAD through policy dialogue, technical demonstration, and talent training.

Expert Perspectives

Sabina Alkire (Oxford University) highlighted China's targeted poverty alleviation model — strong political commitment, sustained investment, and household-specific interventions — as offering valuable lessons for the world. Heidi Kuhn (Roots of Peace founder and 2023 World Food Prize winner) commended China's people-centered approach and focus on empowering women and rural communities. Robert Walker (Oxford) noted that poverty is not a personal burden but a shared societal challenge — and one that can be overcome.

Key Voices

- Cambodia's Deputy Prime Minister Vongsey Vissoth welcomed the initiative as "a timely platform for solidarity, mutual learning and practical cooperation."
- Colombia's Agriculture Minister called China's achievements "a victory for the entire world," demonstrating that with sustained political will, poverty can be overcome.

🔗 **Read full article**

Click here to view the news report.

OPEN CALL

China & Southeast Asia NTFP NGO Network

Open Call for Partners

CANCO is inviting community-based NGOs and grassroots organizations in East and Southeast Asia working on Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs), community forestry, and climate resilience to join our regional network.

FUNDER 人與自然同行基金會 EARTHCARE FOUNDATION

STRATEGIC PARTNER BSCONGO

NETWORK FOUNDER CANGO CHINA ASSOCIATION FOR NGO COOPERATION 中国国际民间组织合作促进会

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER 天津仁怀 社会工作服务中心 Man In Man Social Service Centre

China & Southeast Asia NTFP NGO Network

Call for NGO Partners

The intensification of climate change has led to forest degradation and increased the vulnerability of forest-dependent communities. With the advancement of China's Belt and Road Initiative Green Development Partnership and related ASEAN development plans, China and Southeast Asia countries are placing growing importance on Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) and forest-based livelihoods. However, regional cooperation remains limited, and civil society efforts are still fragmented.

To strengthen regional collaboration, the **China Association for NGO Cooperation (CANGO)** is launching the "**China & Southeast Asia NTFP NGO Network**" funded by the **EarthCare Foundation**. The network aims to build open, and action-oriented transnational partnerships to promote knowledge exchange and resource sharing, and strengthen capacities in livelihood development, climate adaptation, and policy advocacy among forest communities across the region.

THE NETWORK WILL FOCUS ON FOUR CORE ACTIONS:

- **Knowledge Sharing** — Regular online learning sessions to share practical approaches, innovations, and field experiences
- **Field Exchange Visits** — Representatives of participating organizations will have opportunities to join exchange programs, conduct field visits to learn from local practices, fostering a long-term mutual support system
- **Joint Knowledge Creation** — Co-develop climate action toolkits to generate replicable and scalable regional solutions
- **Policy Advocacy** — Jointly draft policy recommendations and action initiatives to mainstream community perspectives in regional policy agendas

WHAT WE EXPECT FROM PARTNERS

- Community-based local NGOs and grassroots organizations in China or Southeast Asian countries
- Organizations focusing on NTFPs, community forestry, climate resilience, and related issues
- Active participation in regional cooperation and experience sharing
- Commitment to network governance rules and the long-term effective and stable operation of the platform

"Rooted Networks ASEAN-China"
Advancing Climate & Livelihood Resilience for Forest Communities

The programme is funded by the EarthCare Foundation (ECF) and strategically supported by the Beijing Service Centre for Overseas Non-Governmental Organizations (BSCONGO). It is jointly implemented by the China Association for NGO Cooperation, Beijing Forestry University and Man in Man Social Service Centre (Tianjin).

Carrying out policy research, academic exchanges, people-to-people exchanges and pilot demonstrations, the initiative empowers forest communities to develop climate resilience solutions. It helps foster the China-ASEAN Green Development Partnership, advance harmonious and mutually beneficial interaction between forest communities and forestlands, and promote coordinated efforts to address regional forestry and climate issues for sustainable development.

Introduction to China Association for NGO Cooperation

China Association for NGO Cooperation (CANGO) is a national platform organization committed to fostering Chinese and international civil society collaboration for sustainable global development. Since its establishment in 1992, CANGO has engaged in exchanges or project cooperation with over 200 foreign NGOs and bilateral and multilateral organizations from 57 countries and regions.

CANGO has carried out extensive work in various fields and topics related to sustainable social development as well as growth and support of the philanthropic sector, benefiting nearly 10 million people. As of the end of 2025, the organization has 209 domestic organization members and individual expert members in total.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

Contact

Mr. Luo Wen Project Manager

Email

luowen@cango.org

Please scan this QR code

to sign up and join the network. and we will inform you of the review result via email soon.

Get in touch:

Contact: Mr. Luo Wen, Project Manager

Email: luowen@cango.org

Scan the QR code to sign up.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Beijing Tongzhou Canal Walk Cultural Exchange Center

Zhangjiawan Town, Tongzhou District, Beijing

The Beijing Tongzhou Canal Walk Cultural Exchange Center is a non-governmental, non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation, innovation, and international exchange of canal heritage. Located at the eastern gateway of Beijing — the historic northern terminus of the Grand Canal — the Center connects local cultural traditions with global audiences.

What We Do: The Center serves as a platform for cross-regional cultural dialogue, connecting canal cities across China through exhibitions, expert consultations, and youth engagement programs. It also functions as the Secretariat of the World Canal Cities Canal Walk Action Organizing Committee, coordinating international cooperation around canal heritage conservation.

Canal Walk Youth Action Framework (2026–2030)

Launched at the UN Youth Forum in April 2026, the Framework rests on four pillars: Youth Connectivity and Global Solidarity, Heritage Stewardship and Sustainable Action, Inclusive Partnerships and Global Network Weaving, and Digital Innovation and Global Interconnection. Building on this framework, the Center has developed an action guide, created a digital platform, integrated canal conservation into educational systems, and launched cultural initiatives — from festivals to the "Most Beautiful Canal Trail" selection — engaging young people across cities.



Knowledge Product

Grand Tour of the Grand Canal (SDX Joint Publishing Company, August 2023) — More than a popular science book, this work reflects the Center's philosophy of "uniting knowledge and action." The book follows a young student named "Zhuangzhuang" as a narrative guide, weaving together over 360 sites across five civilization zones through lively, probing questions. It is paired with a cloud-based platform using digital and AI tools, offering accredited academic credits for youth participants.



June 2025, Yangzhou — International guests explored Slender West Lake dressed in traditional Hanfu during the Canal Walk gathering.



COP30, November 2025 — Chair Cheng Hao presented canal cities' sustainable development experience at "From Canals to Rainforests.



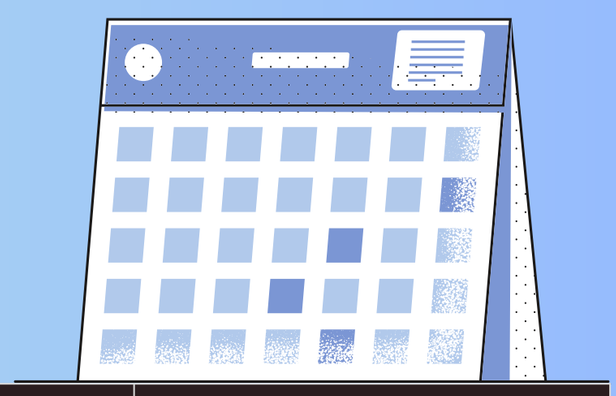
April 2026, UN ECOSOC Youth Forum — Chairman Cheng Hao presented a cultural scroll of China's Grand Canal, highlighting its historical heritage.

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UPCOMING ENGAGEMENT

Opportunities to connect, collaborate, and contribute

— across the region and beyond



Time	Location	Event & Focus	CANGO's Role	How to Engage
July 7, 2026	Virtual	**Forus SSTC Report Launch**	Contributing a case study on regional civil society collaboration to the report Cooperation That Works: Civil Society in South-South and Triangular Cooperation.	Join the online launch on July 7. Registration details to be announced. Contact the CANGO Secretariat for more information.
July 2026	New York, USA	**UN High-Level Political Forum (HLPF)**	Monitoring SDG 5 and SDG 13 entry points and helping partners identify opportunities for civil society participation.	Contact CANGO to explore connections or speaking opportunities if you are planning to attend.
September 2026	Jinan, Shandong, China	**Asia-Pacific Civil Society Conference**	Leading the parallel forum on Regional Governance and Multilateralism, focusing on regional cooperation and sustainable development.	Contribute thematic ideas (open to members), join as a speaker or delegate, or connect with regional NGOs. Contact the CANGO Secretariat. Agenda to be announced.
Late October 2026	Seoul, South Korea	**17th East Asia Civil Society Forum**	Monitoring the agenda, with a focus on AI implications for civil society, including digital rights and social innovation.	Contact CANGO for participation pathways or regional CSO connections. Updates to be shared.