

Capacity Building for Advancing Urban Nature Governance in China

**Sep
29-30**



***University of Nottingham
Ningbo China***

Project Meeting & Workshop – Capacity Building for Advancing Urban Nature Governance in China

Day 1 (Sep.29) – Workshop & Field Visits

Time	Item	Remark
8:30 -12:30	Introduction & Guest Talks Location: Library Multifunction Room 01, UNNC	
8:15 - 8:30	Reception	
8:30 - 8:50	Welcome Remarks & APN Project Briefing	Linjun Xie, Co-PI of the APN project, Assistant Professor, National University of Singapore
8:50 – 9:10	Learning from Rumah & Kebun KAIL	Catharina Any Sulistyowati, Founder of Perkumpulan Kuncup Padang Ilalang (KAIL) in Bandung (2002-present), Indonesia
9:10 - 9:30	Concrete, Canopy & Community: A Blueprint of Co-Governance of Shanghai Heping Park Nature Center	Yuning Wei, Director of Heping Park Nature Center in Shanghai, China
9:30 - 9:50	Resilient Design of Community Revitalization in Urban Villages and Parks	Wenfeng Yuan, Practioner of Community Revitalization at Sketch Action in Shenzhen, China
9:50 -10:00	Tea Break	
10:00-10:20	Campus Sustainability Practices at UNNC	Marina Glushenkova, Member of UNNC Environmental Sustainability Committee
10:20-10:40	Climate Resilience Practices under the Goal of Sustainable Living	Ningning Li, Founder of Green Life in Nanning, China
10:40-11:00	From Nature-based Solutions to Naturescapes: Exploring Implications for Governance	László Pintér, Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences, Central European University
11:00-11:10	Group Photo	
11:20-12:20	Lunch	Location: UNNC Campus
12:30-20:30	Field Visits in Ningbo Location: Heyi Garden and Jianling Village	
12:30-13:00	Depart for Heyi Garden	Intra-Ningbo transportation
13:00-14:00	Field Visit: Heyi Garden	<i>Led by Heyi representative with introduction and guided tour.</i>
14:00-15:30	Depart for Jianling Village Environmental Center	Intra-Ningbo transportation
15:30-17:00	Field Visit: Jianling Village	<i>Led by Jianling Village representative with introduction and guided tour.</i>
17:00-17:30	Recap & Reflection	Facilitated recap
17:30-18:30	Dinner	Location: Jianling Village
19:00-20:30	Return to Ningbo	Intra-Ningbo transportation

Day 2 (Sep.30) – Project Meeting

Time	Item	Remark
9:00-11:30	Project Meeting Location: UNNC Campus, Library Multifunction Room 01	
9:00-9:10	Opening	Faith Ka Shun Chan, Professor and Head of School of Geographical Sciences, University of Nottingham Ningbo China
9:00-9:15	Opening & Objectives Briefly review the overall project objectives and clarify the goals of the morning session.	Introduction on: Progress review, deliverables, next steps.
9:15-10:45	Module-based Discussion 1. Urban Nature Governance Overview 2. Stakeholder Engagement Techniques 3. NbS Design and Evaluation 4. Financing and Business Models 5. Communication and Advocacy	Discussion on: Current progress, gaps and challenges, correspondence with expected deliverables, next steps, and responsible person.
10:45-11:00	Tea Break	
11:00-11:30	Future Collaboration & Next Steps 1. Updated deliverables timeline 2. Assigned responsibilities and next actions	Discussion on: Potential future collaboration themes (e.g., publications) and mechanisms of collaboration (meeting frequency, division of tasks).
12:00-13:00	Lunch	Location: UNNC Campus

For assistance,
please contact:
Mengqi Shao:
13482162627

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Arrival Information

From Ningbo Lishe International Airport (NGB):

By Taxi: Approximately 30 minutes to UNNC Gate 4 (199 Tai Kang East Road). The fare is usually around RMB 40 -- 50.

By Metro: Take Line 2 from the Airport Station, transfer to Line 8 at Liyuan South Road Station, and get off at Xuefu Road Station. From there it takes around 14 minutes on foot to UNNC. However, since there is no metro station directly adjacent to the campus, taking a taxi is more convenient.

From Ningbo Railway Station:

By Taxi: Approximately 30 minutes to UNNC Gate 4 (199 Tai Kang East Road). The fare is usually around RMB 40.

By Metro: Take Line 2 from the Ningbo Railway Station, transfer to Line 8 at Liyuan South Road Station, and get off at Xuefu Road Station. From there it takes around 14 minutes on foot to UNNC. Again, a taxi is more convenient due to the lack of a metro stop directly at the campus.

Arrival Tips:

Language: Most taxi drivers do not speak English. It is recommended to prepare the address of UNNC in Chinese: 宁波诺丁汉大学4号门, 宁波市鄞州区泰康东路199号.

Payment: Taxis generally accept Alipay and WeChat Pay. Credit cards are rarely accepted, and cash is less commonly used due to cashless payment promotion. **We recommend downloading Alipay in advance and linking it with your bank card before arrival.**

Ride-hailing Apps: DiDi Chuxing (滴滴出行) is the most widely used app for calling taxis or ride-hailing cars. An English version exists, but the mini-program version is also available directly in the **Alipay app**, so there is no need for a separate download.

Meeting Information

Venue: University of Nottingham Ningbo China (UNNC) 宁波诺丁汉大学

Address: 199 Tai Kang East Road, Ningbo 泰康东路199号

Accommodation: Boya International Exchange Center (LA Hotel) 博雅国际交流中心

Contact Number (Hotel): 0574-88180818

Site Visit Introductions

Heyi Garden

Once an unmanaged area, Heyi Garden has transformed into a model of grassroots innovation through active civic engagement and ecological restoration. It is one of the case studies of the APN-CaBUNA project, showcasing how community-led efforts can create sustainable urban green spaces.

Jianling Village

Jianling Village is a “zero-pollution” ecological demonstration site in Ningbo. Historically dependent on handicrafts, the village began transforming in 2017 due to water source protection policies. Today, it integrates sustainable agriculture, eco-education, tourism development, and kiwi fruit cultivation.

Reference link: <https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/oFLgP9ZrH2amCbLIsoNDA>

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Campus Map



Building 6 – Library:
Venue for the seminar (Multifunction Room 01)

Building 7 –
LA Hotel (Boya International Exchange Center):
Accommodation for participants

Invoice Information

For reimbursement, both invoice (fapiao) and receipt (xiaopiao) are needed.

Please request an invoice using the following information and provide it to the service staff:

Name: University of Nottingham Ningbo China

Tax Number: 1233000077647510XG

名称: 宁波诺丁汉大学

税号: 1233000077647510XG

Invoice requirements:

Organize all invoices and receipts by date and expense type. Physical copies can be handed to Jiacheng Qu on site.

Premare a reimbursement summary in Excel format and email the spreadsheet and any digital invoices and receipts to Jiacheng Qu: biyjq12@nottingham.edu.cn

Guest (in Speaking Order)



Catharina Any Sulistyowati

Perkumpulan Kuncup Padang Ilalang (KAIL)

Dr. Catharina Any Sulistyowati is a LEAD Indonesia and Donella Meadows Leadership Fellow with expertise in social development. She holds degrees in Aeronautical Engineering, Development Studies, and Strategic and Global Studies, focusing her doctoral research on youth-led community-supported agriculture in Bandung. Since 1995, she has contributed to organizations like ELSPAT and founded KAIL in Bandung. She facilitates learning and team-building for diverse groups, including youth, educators, and government bodies. Her work centers on community visioning, writing on sustainability, and developing learning centers like Rumah KAIL to promote knowledge-sharing and sustainable development.

Yuning Wei

Nature Patch Studio

Dr. Yuning Wei is the founder of Nature Patch Studio. She earned her PhD in Evolutionary Biology through a joint program between the Shanghai Institutes for Biological Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences, and the Max Planck Institute in Germany. She worked as a postdoctoral researcher at Stanford University and was a visiting scholar at Yale University. Dr. Wei has published over ten research papers and reviews in international journals, with more than 2,500 citations. Currently, she is based at the Heping Park Nature Center in Shanghai, focusing on urban ecology research and place-based practice. Her work includes biodiversity surveys in urban parks and the ecological restoration and enhancement of park ecosystems. Through a public ecological exhibition center and a series of nature education programs, she explores pathways and possibilities for co-creating and sharing ecological culture in the heart of a global metropolis.



Wenfeng Yuan

Sketch Action

Wenfeng Yuan is the Project Director of Sketch Action in Shenzhen, as well as an Assistant Landscape Engineer and Assistant Social Worker. Sketch Action is a community-focused organization with over twenty full-time staff members from interdisciplinary backgrounds, including landscape design, graphic design, social work, and non-profit management. Over the past five years, the team has completed more than 100 micro-space renovation and community revitalization projects in Shenzhen. Specialising in ecological design and public participation, they engage in We Gardens (co-creation gardens), micro-renovations in urban villages, upgrades of old residential area, community revitalization, and local operations. Sketch Action excels in mobilizing community efforts to facilitate small-scale spatial practices addressing climate change. Moreover, each team member focuses on research of an ecological area, such as butterfly habitats, bird habitats, and rainwater management. Yuan's primary focus is community composting.





Marina Glushenkova

University of Nottingham Ningbo China

Dr. Marina Glushenkova is an Assistant Professor in Economics at Business School of UNNC. She obtained her PhD in Economics from the University of Cyprus. Her research interests lie in international macroeconomics and international finance. She was also invited to lecture on macroeconomics and economic growth theories for master's students at Ural Federal University (Russia). In addition to her academic work, Marina is actively engaged in campus sustainability. She is a member of the UNNC Environmental Sustainability Committee, a representative of the reUNNC staff club, and a core member of the UNNC New Farm Management Committee.

Ningning Li

Green Life Social Work Service Center

Ningning Li is the founder of the Green Life Social Work Service Center in Nanning. The center is an action-oriented organization that embeds environmental values into everyday life. Through a co-creation model with communities and residents, it actively promotes the building of living spaces where humans and nature can coexist harmoniously. In practice, the organization is committed to promoting waste reduction at the source and encouraging residents to rethink their consumption habits. At the community level, it promotes circular practices by teaching techniques for transforming kitchen waste into useful resources and converting abandoned flower beds into "breathing gardens" with ecological functions. It also makes full use of rooftops and idle land for ecological farming, enabling residents to deepen their understanding of climate change and traditional ecological knowledge through hands-on practice. Li and her team firmly believe that the power to change the world lies in everyone's daily green choices and actions.



László Pintér

Central European University

Dr. László Pintér is a Professor in the Department of Environmental Sciences and Policy at Central European University (CEU) in Vienna, Austria. His research focuses on sustainability governance and strategy, integrated progress measurement and reporting, as well as scenario development and transition pathways, especially in the natural resources sector. He has over 30 years of international experience in the field of sustainable development. Throughout his career, he has collaborated with major organizations including the World Bank, OECD, UNEP, UNDP, the European Commission, the GEF, and the China Council. Currently, Dr. Pintér's work is centered on the post-2015 development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with emphasis on goal selection, monitoring, review, and implementation mechanisms. While internationally active, Professor Pintér strongly believes in the importance of local initiatives, where the concepts and challenges of sustainability become tangible, human, and urgent.



Kefeng Sha

Hezhong Community

Kefeng Sha is the founder and head of the "Veterans' Channel" Studio. He currently serves as Party Secretary and Director of Hezhong Community in Shounan Subdistrict, Ningbo, and leads the local Veterans Service Station. Recognized as one of Ningbo's "Most Honorable Veterans", he leads the establishment of the Agricultural Innovation Garden, a community farm managed by retired soldiers. The produce is distributed free of charge to elderly residents living alone and those in need. He also engages individuals under correction in farming and volunteer delivery work, fostering rehabilitation through labor and service. Through the "Veterans' Channel" platform, he promotes innovative social governance and community volunteering. His team has received multiple awards for excellence, and he has twice been named an Outstanding Social Worker, reflecting his commitment of veterans to serve and give back to society.

Jianguo Wang

Jianling Village

Jianguo Wang is a highly respected grassroots leader who has served as the Party Secretary of Jianling Village for over two decades. Recognized at both the provincial and municipal levels as a model of local leadership, he has been deeply rooted in community practice throughout his career. Under his guidance, Jianling Village has prioritized water source protection and environmental improvement, evolving into a "zero-pollution" model through innovative practices in waste reduction, recycling, and green infrastructure. These initiatives have earned the village numerous national and provincial honors. In addition, he has actively promoted rural industries such as enzyme-based agriculture and supported eco-education and agritourism initiatives. Under his leadership, the village is exploring a sustainable path that integrates ecological protection with rural revitalization.



Qiaoye Kang

Jianling Village

Qiaoye Kang, Director of Women's Affairs in Jianling Village, has played a pivotal role in advancing rural environmental protection and public welfare. Since 2017, she has been fully dedicated to building the "Zero Pollution Village". She organized volunteer teams, created public education materials, and went door-to-door to promote waste sorting, rallying villagers to adhere to the concept: "Uphold Zero Pollution, Protect Our Water Source". She is also a driving force behind the village's monthly eco-market, where her efforts have contributed to achieving a local processing rate of nearly 80% of household waste being processed locally. This model has since been adopted by eight other villages across Dayan Town. Kang has promoted green farming practices by producing eco-enzymes from kitchen waste for agricultural use. Due to her outstanding contributions, Jianling Village was recognized as Zhejiang Province's first official "Zero Pollution Village".

APN Project Team



Faith Chan (Co-PI)

University of Nottingham Ningbo China

Dr. Faith Ka Shun Chan is a University of Nottingham Ningbo China (UNNC) professor. He holds a visiting research professorship at SUSTech, Shenzhen, and a senior research fellow position at Water@Leeds Research Institute and School of Geography, University of Leeds, UK. He specialises in sustainable flood risk management, climate adaptations, and urban resilience in Asian coastal megacities. He has been funded twice by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) for International Scientist (RFIS-II) talents scheme on the PI for investigating the urban climate resilience on floods and planning issues and previously also funded the microplastics and their impacts on urban rivers.

Linjun Xie (Co-PI)

National University of Singapore

Dr. Linjun Xie is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography at the National University of Singapore, specializing in urban sustainability transitions across climate, biodiversity, and societal domains. Her research focuses on governance, planning, and transformation, advancing theoretical frameworks and policy strategies. She was a visiting scholar at the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society (2018) and later worked as a Postdoctoral Research Assistant at Durham University (2019–2021) before joining the University of Nottingham Ningbo China as an Assistant Professor (2021–2025). Dr. Xie also served as a Lead Author for the IPBES Nexus Assessment Report, contributing to global sustainability policy and research.



Wendy Y. Chen (CI)

The University of Hong Kong

Dr. Wendy Y. Chen is a professor and Deputy Head (Research) in the Department of Geography at the University of Hong Kong. She is also Editor-in-Chief of Urban Forestry & Urban Greening, a leading journal in urban forestry and greening. Dr. Chen serves on NGOs and governmental authorities, as well as research grant review panels. Her interdisciplinary research bridges physical and human geography, focusing on urban green-blue spaces for sustainability. She integrates socioeconomic dimensions into urban forestry scholarship, examining the demand and supply of urban nature amidst urbanization in developing and re-urbanization in developed countries.





Jianfeng Li (CI)

Hong Kong Baptist University /
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Dr. Jianfeng Li is an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography and Director of the Centre for Geo-computation Studies of Hong Kong Baptist University. He also serves on a number of professional bodies, such as President of the Hong Kong Geographic Information System Association, and Committee member of the Hong Kong Geographical Association and the Hong Kong Meteorological Society. His major research interests include hydroclimatology, environmental change, and water hazards, focusing on climate change impacts on hydrological processes and the environment, especially hydrological and climatic extremes.

Jieqi Ma (CI)

The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen

Dr. Jieqi Ma is an Assistant Professor (Teaching) at the School of Humanities and Social Science at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen. Her research focuses on environmental and climate governance, resource management, and climate change education. Her work has been published in leading international journals, including *Nature Climate Change* and the *Journal of Environmental Management*. In addition to her publications, Jieqi has actively contributed to several national-level research projects. Committed to bridging theory and practice, she continues to engage in both academic research and practical initiatives, striving to promote awareness and education on pressing climate-related issues.

