

PRESS RELEASE



Shanghai, 15th June 2017- German Chamber of Commerce in China Awards Outstanding Social Engagement

German companies Bosch Automotive Products (Suzhou), Freudenberg, Lanxess, rose plastic (Kunshan), SAP labs China and Wacker Chemicals (China) are the winners of the More Than a Market Awards 2017 for outstanding efforts in social engagement. A further award goes to the collaborative Football Project.

On 15th June 2017, for the second time, the German Chamber of Commerce in China and Bertelsmann Stiftung, supported by the German Consulate General Shanghai, awarded the More than a Market Award to seven German projects to honor their outstanding social engagement in Chinese society. German companies and organizations with operations in Mainland China were invited to submit applications for ongoing social activities. An independent Chinese-German jury carefully evaluated 75 submitted projects from companies who account for some 350,000 jobs in China. Among the 18 shortlisted finalists, the jury selected the winners for this year based on criteria such as impact, relevance, innovation, transferability and sustainability. The Awards were handed out in the evening of 15th June at the More than a Market Gala. Special guests and key note speakers were leading female entrepreneurs in the world of media and dedicated philanthropists Liz Mohn and Yue-Sai Kan.

The large number and variety of submitted projects reflect a far-reaching and impactful engagement of German companies in Chinese society. This year, projects dedicated to education, water protection, health and migrant children were among the winners. Due to the remarkable number of school cooperation projects, the jury decided to create a special award category entitled ‘School Partnerships’, which was given jointly to three companies for their equally outstanding projects.

A glance into the winning projects

In the category “**Small Enterprises (1-500 employees in China)**”, rose plastic (Kunshan) was chosen for its ongoing education program “**SPARK THE FUTURE**” for children in underprivileged areas. The project description can be found on page 46 of the attached publication.

In the category “**Medium Enterprises (500-5,000 employees)**”, Lanxess receives the award for their exemplary engagement in their Water Protection Project aimed at increasing public awareness and capability of protecting water resources.

The project description can be found on page 40 of the attached publication.

In the category “**Large enterprises (more than 5,000 employees)**”, **SAP Labs China** receives the award for their comprehensive approach to preparing young people for an innovation-driven economy with their SAP Labs China TREES Program.

The project description can be found on page 48 of the attached publication.

In the category for “**Collaborative Projects**”, which are initiated by two or more German companies, the **Football Project Team** was selected. The objective of the project is to give migrant children the opportunity to enjoy football training and modern physical education, while having an integrative effect and promoting self-confidence, tolerance and teamwork.

The project description can be found on page 32 of the attached publication.

Acknowledging the overwhelming number of German companies engaged in supporting schools and pupils, an additional fifth category “**School Partnerships**” was introduced. The companies **Bosch Automotive Products (Suzhou), Freudenberg** and **Wacker Chemicals (China)** were jointly awarded the prize for building schools, providing funds and supplies to students and training to teachers in mainly earthquake ridden areas.

The project descriptions can be found on pages 20, 34 and 52 of the attached publication.

“The social projects presented here clearly illustrate the wide range of successful German-Chinese partnerships” said Liz Mohn, Vice-Chair of Bertelsmann Stiftung Executive Board. “Responsible entrepreneurs can - and should - make a meaningful contribution to shaping social change.”

About the Initiative

The More than a Market initiative aims to catalyze and promote social engagement of German companies operating in China. Launched in 2015 by the German Chamber of Commerce in China | Shanghai and Bertelsmann Stiftung with strong support from the German Consulate General in Shanghai, the initiative was set up to further strengthen the good standing of German business in China by growing stronger roots in society and creating deeper relationships and partnerships between German and Chinese organizations and people. In 2017 the initiative was rolled out China-wide. For more information please visit: www.morethanamarket.cn

About the German Chamber of Commerce in China

The German Chamber of Commerce in China is the official member organization of German companies in China. It offers a platform for the Sino-German business community and is committed to represent its member's interests towards governmental and public stakeholders, strengthen the economic and commercial exchanges between China and Germany and contribute to the positive development of the strategic partnership between the two countries. Founded in 1999, the German Chamber of Commerce has currently around 2,500 members in mainland China.

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