

PRESS RELEASE



MORE THAN A MARKET
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Shanghai, 30th May 2019 - German Chamber of Commerce in China Awards Outstanding Social Engagement

Taicang Inclusion Factory, E.G.O. Components (China), Siemens China, Henkel (China) Investment, and German School Shanghai-Hongqiao have been honored as this year's winners of the 'More than a Market Awards 2019' for outstanding efforts in social engagement.

On 30th May 2019, for the fourth time, the German Chamber of Commerce in China and Bertelsmann Stiftung, supported by the diplomatic representations of the Federal Republic of Germany in China and the Legal Center for NGO ("ForNGO"), awarded the 'More than a Market Award' to five 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 102 submitted projects from companies, which account for some 500,000 jobs in China. Among the 20 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 at the 'More than a Market Awards Gala' on the evening of the 30th May, with H.E. Shi Mingde, the former ambassador of China to Germany, welcomed as the keynote speaker of the evening. Filled with workshops and discussions of ways to further expand social responsibility, the preceding 'More than a Market Forum' provided a platform for sharing and developing best practices and peer-learning of social engagement by German companies in China.

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 environmental protection, visually impaired children, education, social inclusion and migrant worker's children were among the winners. Consideration to the need for the protection of human health and the environment, prompted the initiative to create an additional category "Environmental Protection" for 2019. Also, the outstanding efforts of smaller CSR projects, often driven by only a few individuals, led to a special category "Passion & Potential".

A glance at the winning projects

In the category "**Small Enterprises (1-500 employees in China)**", **Taicang Inclusion Factory** received an award that honors their partnership with Flex Zhuhai, in which both parties teamed up to develop a manufacturing unit (Mechanical Inclusive Factory) where all operators are people with intellectual disabilities. *The project description can be found on page 62 of the attached publication.*

In the category "**Medium Enterprises (500-5,000 employees)**", **E.G.O. Components** was selected for their "Summer Camp" for left-behind children of migrant workers, which is dedicated to reuniting rural workers and their families who are otherwise separated due to the increase of high mobile labor force. *The project description can be found on page 36 of the attached publication.*

In the category “**Large enterprises (more than 5,000 employees)**”, **Siemens China** was awarded for their outstanding efforts in the company’s flagship project “I-Green Education Program” which aims to educate migrant children in the field of science and technology of environmental protection. *The project description can be found on page 58 of the attached publication.*

This year’s winner of the special category “**Environmental Protection**” is **Henkel (China) Investment’s** program “Flying Hope”, which aims to save the life of a bird species which is close to extinction due to land reclamation in East Asia and continuously adds new ideas and enriching partnerships to their efforts. *The project description can be found on page 48 of the attached publication.*

Due to this year’s high number of applications, ‘More Than a Market’ has awarded yet another organization for their outstanding performance in 2019: **German School Shanghai-Hongqiao (DSS-Hongqiao)** and its partner, the NGO Mifan Mama, have been selected as the winner of the category “**Passion & Potential**” for their “Project “‘Illumine+’ Eye Care Outreach” which is a comprehensive program for the benefit of poor children to provide measures for the prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of visual impairments, including free checkups, information on how to avoid and treat problems, as well as the organization and financial support of treatment and surgery when needed. *The project descriptions can be found on pages 42 of the attached publication.*

“The ‘More than a Market’ initiative is focusing on the German business actors in China that spare no effort when it comes to contributing to and shaping the society around them for the better,” said Liz Mohn, Vice-Chair of Bertelsmann Stiftung Executive Board. “If we long for a peaceful and just world with more social and economic stability, we have to communicate values, take responsibility and build trust in cooperation.”

About More than a Market

The initiative ‘More than a Market’ aims to spur and promote the social engagement of German companies operating in China. Initiated by the German Chamber of Commerce in China | Shanghai and Bertelsmann Stiftung in Germany, together with the German Consulate in Shanghai, the initiative is meanwhile deeply rooted in the Chinese society. Since 2017, it is borne by all German Chambers of Commerce in China and supported by the diplomatic representations of the Federal Republic of Germany in China, in order to establish an even more profound relationship and partnership between the people and the organizations of these two nations. Since 2019, the initiative is also supported by the Legal Center for NGO (“ForNGO”). 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 which represents German companies doing business in China. The German Chamber helps its members succeed by providing up to date market information and practical advice. It offers a platform for the Sino-German business community and represents its members’ interests towards stakeholders including governmental and public stakeholders. The Chamber has more than 2,300 members in mainland China. Further information is available at: www.china.ahk.de

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