# ACYF INFORMATION

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The 7th Forum for Chinese Youth & Children Development
Opened in Shanghai

On October 22, 2011, the 7th Forum for Chinese Youth & Children Development opened in Shanghai. Among those present were Wang Hongyan, president of China Youth & Children Research Association; Xi Jieying, director of China Youth & Children Research Center and executive vice president of China Youth & Children Research Association; and Pan Min, president of Shanghai Municipal Youth Federation.

With the theme of “Social Governance Innovation and Youth & Children Work”, nearly 300 participants gathered in the forum and conducted extensive and profound exchange. The participants are mainly composed of experts, scholars and professionals working in the area of youth & children work and its related research from 27 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions as well as Hong Kong and Macao.

Wang Hongyan delivered an important speech entitled “Further Improve Youth Work by Participating in Social Governance and Fulfilling the Missions of ACYF” at the opening ceremony of the forum. After the ceremony, Xi Jieying made a keynote speech on the theme of “Contemporary Youth Development and Social Governance Innovation”.

The forum also witnessed a series of other fascinating keynote speeches, including “Social Governance Innovation: the Challenges and Trends” by He Zengke, director of Department of World Development Strategy, Central Complication & Translation Bureau; “Practice and Thoughts on the Governance of Social Organizations Based in Shanghai” by Ma Yili, bureau chief of Shanghai Civil Affairs Bureau; and “Social Governance and Youth Work in Hong Kong” by Wang Yiming, secretary–general of Hong Kong Youth Association.

Six such forums had been held since its foundation in 2005. Thanks to the careful organization of all the co-organizers, the forum has become an important annual meeting for youth & children workers and researchers, offering a good platform for idea exchange, achievement exhibition, development promotion and networking. It was reported that the organizer of the forum had received 332 theses before the opening ceremony.

On October 23, some renowned experts and scholars were invited to the thematic seminars of “Youth · Society · Organizations” and “Youth · Network · Expression” and the four consequent sub–forums with the themes of “The Work of Youth Federations in the Context of Social Governance Innovation” “Social Governance in the Cyber Community and the Development of Youth & Children” “Social Support for Migrant and Left-behind Youth & Children” “Social Governance Innovation and the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency” respectively. The seminars and sub–forums were held in the form of brain storming and were lively broadcasted via microblogs.
Skilled Young Workers Communicated with College Students

On the afternoon of October 27, 2011, the activity of “Skilled Young Workers Communicate with College Students” was held in Liaoning Provincial College of Communications. The activity was sponsored by All-China Youth Federation and Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, and organized by the Shenyang Municipal Government, Liaoning Provincial Youth Federation and Liaoning Provincial Department of Human Resources and Social Security.

In the activity, four skilled young workers made fascinating thematic reports to the students. Feeling benefited a lot from the reports, many students further entrenched their objective of “achieving success via skills”.

The famous workers were Xu Qiang from Shenyang Blower Works Group Corporation, Wan Shengqiang from Avic Xi’an Aircraft Industry (Group) Company Ltd, Meng Xiong from China Aviation Xi’an Aircraft Industry Group, Meng Wei from Xuzhou Heavy Machinery Co., LTD and Qian Jigang from Beijing Shougang Company Limited. They made face-to-face communication with over 400 students from six senior and secondary vocational colleges, namely Liaoning Provincial College of Communications, Liaoning Finance Vocational College, Senior Vocational College of Shenyang Agriculture University, Shenyang Automobile Engineering School, Shenyang Information Engineering School and Shenyang Chemical Industry School.

The skilled workers talked about their personal experience and feelings in their process of getting success with skills, and answered the questions on study, work and development raised by the students. Although working in different positions, the four skilled workers shared many common traits, such as firm convictions, exquisite skills, hard working, and sense of social responsibility. Their growth experience and feelings deeply impressed the students presented.

The organizers also invited two skilled shop-assistants to the event. They are Xie Wenzhang, a salesman from Foodstuff Market of Xinglong Mansion who was awarded by China Central Television, and Wang Nan, a salesman from a supermarket selling sportswear and casual wear in Shenyang. They performed exquisite skills in their related working fields, drawing thunderous applause and acclaims.

The All-China Youth Federation has been choosing skilled young workers through public appraisal since 1994. This practice has played a positive role in improving the skills of young workers, enhancing human resource development and benefiting enterprises.

The activity of “Skilled Young Workers Communicate with College Students” is a highlight event of the 7th National Skill Competition for Young Workers. It aims to change the current situation of lacking skilled young workers in China by setting good examples and promoting their experience of success. By building a social atmosphere of respecting labor and skills and encouraging innovation, the activity urges young workers to make greater contributions to the economic and social development by improving their skills.
First Exhibition of Chinese Cultural Classics Education Held in Beijing

On the afternoon of November 26, 2011, over 500 people gathered in the auditorium of Central Socialist Institute to take part in the first Exhibition of Chinese Cultural Classics Education. These people are composed of teachers working in the field of Chinese cultural classics education in kindergarten, elementary and middle schools and primary and middle school students who are interested in Chinese traditional culture. They came from nearly a dozen of provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions all over the country, including Beijing, Tianjin, Guangdong, Guangxi, Hunan, and Hong Kong.

Among those presented in the exhibition were Ms. Gu Xiulian, former vice president of the Standing Committee of National People’s Congress and director of China National Committee for the Wellbeing of the Youth; Shen Jianguo, member of CPPCC and former vice president of All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce; Liao Wenke, vice director of Department of Sports, Healthcare and Art, Ministry of Education; and Xu Lu from the Department of Children, All-China Youth Federation. They watched the performances on Chinese cultural classics by elementary and middle school students from all over the country. The students fully displayed the attraction of Chinese traditional culture via various forms of art, such as recitals, martial arts, rites, ancient zithers and stringed instruments, as well as Peking Opera and shadow puppet shows.

The program was jointly organized by China Youth & Children Development Service Center, Chinese Cultural Classics Education Guiding Center, and China Hand in Hand Art Troupe for Youth & Children. As Sun Zhu, president of China Youth & Children Development Service Center pointed out, this activity is only a part of the Exhibition of Chinese Cultural Classics Education. The exhibition also includes experience sharing and expert reports.

The organizers also invited educators in the field of Chinese cultural classics for experience sharing and renowned experts on Chinese culture education for thematic reports.
On November 19–20, 2011, members of China Youth Entrepreneurs Association visited Weifang and Dongying of Shandong Province and investigated the oceanic economy there. He Junke, president of China Youth Entrepreneurs Association and Sun Wei, vice governor of Shandong Province attended the program and delivered speeches respectively.

This program was a concrete measure taken by the association adhering to the instruction of All-China Youth Federation, which called on the association actively take part in the development of main functional regions set aside by the country. During the program, China Youth Entrepreneurs Association, Shandong Oceanic Economy Development Office, and Shandong Provincial Committee of China Communist Youth League signed a Strategic Cooperation Agreement on the Development of Shandong Oceanic Economic Zone. More than 130 young entrepreneurs conducted field investigation in Weifang Coastal Development Zone and Dongying Economic and Technology Development Zone and Harbor Area of Dongying.
On December 18, 2011, a 100-member Chinese youth delegation, headed by Lu Hao, first secretary of the Secretariat of The Communist Youth League of China, set off for Vietnam for a friendly visit as well as for participating in the 12th Chinese–Vietnamese Youth Friendly Gathering.

The delegation was composed of representatives from all walks of life, such as representatives of various provinces and regions, central state organs and agencies, state-owned enterprises, the railway industry, the media, youth federations at all levels, youth scholars, young artists, young entrepreneurs, journalists, university students and even Olympic champions.

During their stay in Vietnam, the delegation attended the opening ceremony of the 12th Chinese–Vietnamese Youth Friendly Gathering; took part in two thematic forums, namely “Youth Participation in New Countryside Construction” and “The Work of Communist Youth Leagues in Private Enterprises”; met and exchanged ideas with Vietnamese entrepreneurs and youth representatives. The delegation also visited the countryside, investigated the economic and social development in Hanoi City, Quang Ninh Province and Ngê Ann Province and paid homage to Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum.

Unleashed in 2000, Chinese–Vietnamese Youth Friendly Gathering has already been successfully held annually for 11 years. Taking the form of sending a 100-member youth delegation to the other country in every two years, this activity has played a positive role in strengthening mutual understanding and trust between youth of the two countries, thus enhancing the friendship of the two countries.
EU–China Year of Youth and vice president of All–China Youth Federation; and Ederer, ambassador of European Union to China, attended the closing ceremony and delivered speeches respectively.

Lu pointed out in his speech that EU–China Year of Youth won the all–out support and active involvement of youth from both EU and China. It strengthened the mutual understanding and cooperation between youth of EU and China, and expanded the consensus and cooperation between various institutions and youth organizations of the two sides. The Year also laid a foundation for the future development of EU–China relations in the hearts of the people by making good exploration and offering valuable experience for the establishment of EU–China high–rank people to people exchange mechanism. Ambassador Ederer fully confirmed the achievements and great significance of the Year. He called on youth from EU and China continue to make contribution to the development of EU, China and EU–China relations by further strengthening friendship and cooperation between the two sides.

2011 EU–China Year of Youth was jointly proposed by Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and European Commission President Barroso at the 12th EU–China Summit. Since the launching of the Year in January, 2011, under the joint efforts of The Communist Youth League of China, All–China Youth Federation, European Commission and other partner organizations from both EU and China, more than 120 exchange activities have been carried out, including flagship events, youth highlight events, partnership programs as well as media and publicity events. More than 10,000 young people have participated directly in the activities, more than 160,000 have participated by new media platform, and activities have reached hundreds of millions of youth, achieving an extensive and positive impact.
Shanghai: IT Youth Innovation Summit Held

On the afternoon of December 15, the 2011 Shanghai IT Youth Innovation Summit, under the sponsorship of China Mobile, was held in the Shanghai International Convention Center.

Coinciding with the 10th anniversary of the appraisal of “Top 10 IT Youth Vanguards”, the summit set the theme of “Innovation Helps Us Proceed Smartly” and invited over 500 guests to meet at the bank of Huangpu River. These guests are composed of all previous prize-winners and nominees, domestic IT tycoons, members of Shanghai Information Youth Talent Association, investors and social elites from all circles in Shanghai. They reviewed the achievements of the industry over the past ten years and envisioned the future of IT industry, and probed into the great value of innovation for the development of both the industry and youth working in this industry.

The summit was divided into two sessions: keynote speeches and free exchange. In the session of speeches, Liu Jian, deputy director of Shanghai Municipal Economic and Information Committee, and Wang Yang, vice president of IBM and general manager of IBM China, made an interpretation of the Program of Smart City from the perspective of administrator and businessman respectively. Li Shengbing, executive president and CEO of Tianya BBS, and Xie Haiguagn, deputy director of Shanghai Internet Media Administrative Office, focused their speech and discussion on the development of new media in Shanghai. While Yang Haikang, assistant to the general manager of China Mobile Shanghai Branch, and Xing Bo, vice president of Neusoft, focused their attention on mobile Internet. Their thorough analysis and innovative ideas won thunderous applauses from the audience.

The summit was broadcasted lively on t.qq.com and weibo.com, which enabled a great many netizens join the discussion.

The summit ended with the closing speech delivered by Dai Jianbiao, president of Shanghai Information Youth Talent Association and president of Nuesoft.
In coordination with the implementation of “Project of Promoting the Employment and Entrepreneurship of University Students” in Hubei Province and promote the application of scientific innovation achievements, a non-profit recruitment fair was held in Hongshan Stadium, Wuhan, Hubei Province on November 27, 2011. This recruitment fair also witnessed the singing of scientific innovation achievement purchase agreements between enterprises and university students.

At the signing ceremony, three enterprises, namely Wuhan Huagong Zhengyuan Photon Technology Co., LTD, Zhongnan Equipment Company Ltd, and Wuhan Chutian Laser Group signed agreements to sponsor three projects carried out by three universities. The three projects are “research on the capacity of super capacitor and the formation of heterostructure nanometer-line” carried out by Wuhan University of Technology, “tyre-and-crawler vehicle for rescue and water extinguishing” project carried out Wuhan University of Science and Technology and “adjustable bicycle project” carried out by Hubei University of Technology.

After the signing ceremony, participants attended non-profit recruitment fair, exhibition and promotion conference of innovation and entrepreneurship achievements by university students of Hubei, as well as the “Meet the Talents” program jointly run by the Hubei Provincial Committee of China Communist Party, Hubei Students’ Federation and Hubei TV Economic Channel.
Guizhou: the 1900th School Supported by the Hope Project
Set up in Huangping County

In their ethnic clothes and with a beam of joy, students of Guizhou Province, bided farewell to the less than 45 square meters classroom temporary rented from the farmers. From this time on, each of the six grades of this primary school supported by the Project of Hope will have their own separate classroom. Their classroom will move to a two-floor building which occupies 2,600 square meters and has an inner space of 822.88 square meters. This new teaching building has a capacity of accommodating 300 students at the same time.

Dangyue Primary School was built with the 700,000 Yuan donated by the trainees of the 9th session of Hushang Shuyuan and was the 1900th school built under the support of the Project of Hope, making Guizhou ranked first in China in terms of the number of schools built under the support of the Project of Hope.

Over the last two decades, the Guizhou Provincial Youth & Children Development Foundation has unswervingly focused its attention on offering education to students who are not able to afford for it by raising funds from all channels. Under the support of the provincial government, youth federations at all levels, the Project of Hope, related corporations and kind-hearted people, the Foundation has collected a total of 650 million yuan over the past 20 years. With the money collected, the Foundation built 1,900 schools and supported 234,400 students, making great contribution to the education of Guizhou Province.

Due to historical reasons, there are still many students in Guizhou’s remote mountainous areas who cannot get a warm launch, a hot bath or live in warm dormitories. Kids are the future and the hope of the society. It is the responsibility of the whole society to ensure all of them can receive good education.
Sichuan: Provincial Youth Development Foundation Sends 30 Students from Quake-hit Area to Singapore for Study

From October 25 to November 5, 2011, the second delegation of “The Tongchuang Student Exchange Program” visited Singapore for learning and exchange. This tour was organized by Singaporean Pan–American World Co., LTD and the 30 students and four teachers in this delegation were selected by Sichuan Youth Development Foundation from four China–Singapore friendship schools and six schools supported by the “Project of Hope”. During their visit in Singapore, all the members of the delegation met and exchanged with Wei Wei, ambassador of China to Singapore, and Lin Ruisheng, minister of Singaporean Prime Minister’s Office.

Ambassador Wei told the students that thanks to the selfless and generous support offered by the Singaporean people, it was a valuable opportunity for them to visit Singapore. This fully demonstrated the profound friendship between the two peoples, and fully embodied the love and kindness of the Singaporean people. By getting together and learning from each other, this program will benefit the students of both sides in their future lives. He hoped that the Chinese students would bring home their personal experiences and feelings about Singaporean culture, art and life and strive to become envoys of China–Singapore friendship.

Minister Lin said that the “The Tongchuang Student Exchange Program” was the most meaningful one he had ever experienced. It was a rare opportunity for students to take part in this program, especially for students from quake-stricken areas of Sichuan. He hoped that they would cherish this rare opportunity and learn and observe conscientiously. He also hoped that Singaporean students would learn from the positive mentality and optimistic spirit of their Sichuan counterparts.

In the nearly two-weeks’ visit, the delegation went to the Public Peiqun School and the Singapore Chinese Overseas High School, where they attended courses on computer, fine art, English and physical education, exchanged feelings and ideas with local students and taking part in many benevolent activities together with local students. Chinese students also performed Chinese dance and poem recital for their Singaporean counterparts. As envoys of China–Singapore friendship, the Chinese students also attended a series of cultural relics and modern buildings, including the Peranakan Museum, China Town Street, Merlion’s Park and the Universal Studio.

Background of the Program:

After the devastating May 12 Wenchuan earthquake in 2008, by organizing disaster-relieving performances, people from all walks of Singapore collected a donation of 10 million Singaporean Dollars (approximately 50 million yuan) for the quake-stricken areas. With the money collected, seven China–Singapore friendship schools were built in Sichuan Province, China.
The “The Tongchuang Student Exchange Program” was a follow-up activity of the charity performance. This program was initiated by Minister Lin Ruisheng and carried out by Singaporean Pan–American World Co., LTD. Under the support of this program, each year 10 outstanding students will be selected for a learning and exchange tour to Singapore. This program aims to offer encouragement to the students in the quake-stricken area in the long term and strengthen the friendship between Chinese and Singaporean students.

In July 2010, the first delegation of Chinese students, composed of 22 students from 5 China–Singapore friendship schools, went to Singapore for a week’s exchange and learning. This year, the 30 students in the second delegation came from China–Singapore Friendship schools and schools supported by the “Project of Hope” located in Dayi, Shifang, Mianzhu, Guanghan, Mingshan and Tianquan.

Recently, the Liaoning Provincial Committee of China Communist Party and the Department of Young Volunteers of the Organizing Committee of the 12th National Games convened in Shenyang the update meeting for “Voluntary Service in Support of the Children of Migrant Workers” and concurrently the cultivate meeting for the voluntary service programs of the 12th National Games. Tian Ye, president of Liaoning Provincial Young Federation and officials from the Department of Young Volunteers of All–China Youth Federation and the director of Guangdong Provincial Young Volunteers Guiding Center delivered training courses on “designing and development of voluntary service programs” and “experience–sharing of Guangdong’s voluntary service practice” for the leaders of voluntary service programs.

Taking the example of “Qianyu Qianxun” program, officials from the Liaoyu Young Volunteers Guiding Center and Liaoning Young Volunteers Association also conducted training on experience sharing for voluntary service programs. Taking the form of discussion, this training realized its aim of improving the ability of leaders of voluntary service programs in designing and operating voluntary service programs.
The 10th Anniversary of International Year of Volunteers

On December 18, 2008, The United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution A/Res/63/153 for memorizing the 10th anniversary of International Year of Voluntary Service (IVY+10). In the Resolution, the UN General Assembly called on the governments of member states, the media, NGOs, private sectors, partner organizations and UN agencies to carry out memorizing events at national and local levels. The UN General Assembly also designated the United Nations Volunteers as the coordinating organ for the IVY + 10.

IVY + 10 was a good opportunity for demonstrating the diversified, profound and extensive development of volunteer service all over the world. This year, the various activities in memorize of the IVY+10 all over the world will multiply the influence of volunteer service and mobilize more people into the contingent of volunteers.

The Objectives of IYV+10

By celebrating the achievements of voluntary service, the IYV+10 takes voluntary service as a method to articulate the common traits of human nature and an approach for achieving the following objectives:

– Realizing respect, understanding, trust, coherence and mutual benefit;

– Benefit the society as a whole as well as individual volunteers;

– Making contributions to the development of human beings and human rights;

– Dedicating the willing, energy and innovation force of the millions of people to the realizing of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals;

– Creating favorable conditions for citizens to participate in voluntary service via the development of policies, supportive bills of law and other infrastructures.

The History of IYV

The IYV was initiated by several major international NGOs in the early 1990s. In November 1997, the 52nd UN General Assembly adopted the Resolution A/Res/52/17, which designated the year 2001 as the International Year of Volunteers and United Nations Volunteer as the international coordinating organ for IYV. The resolution defined the four objectives of IYV: fully confirm the significance of voluntary service, actively support the activities of voluntary service, setting up the network of volunteers and multiply the effect of volunteer spirit.

In 2001, there were 123 countries and regions which set up its committee for the 2001 International Year of Volunteers. China also set up the Committee of 2001 International Year of Volunteers chaired by the then State Councilor Wu Yi. The 2001 International Year of Volunteers confirmed the inestimable role played by voluntary service in social, economic and cultural development, human assistance and peace-keeping, and the necessity of further recognizing, promoting and publicizing voluntary service. The 2001 International Year of Volunteers also recognized the importance of networking volunteers for exchanging the best practices of voluntary service.
December 4 and 5, 2011 saw the upsurge of activities celebrating the 10th anniversary of International Year of Volunteers. In order to approve the results achieved by voluntary service, mobilize and encourage more people get involved in the cause of voluntary service, various activities were being carried out all over the country in memory of the 26th International Volunteer Day. This year, the theme of multilateral cooperation in promoting voluntary service was attached special importance.

A series of memorizing activities for the 10th anniversary of International Year of Volunteers, including the Forum on the Role of Volunteering in Promoting Harmonious Development and concurrently the 2nd Exhibition of Volunteering, the “Let’s do it!” Volunteers’ Gala and the first Guangzhou Expo on Volunteering held by the Guangzhou Municipal Youth Federation, all displayed the innovative achievements and management experience of volunteer service, enhancing the multilateral cooperation and platform establishment in the field of voluntary service.

In April, 2011, the social welfare innovation contest held by the Department of Volunteers of China Charity Federation fully demonstrated the active participation of Chinese university students in social work and their innovative ideas in resolving the challenges confronting China. In June, 2011, the foundation of Federation of Volunteers Working in the Sector of Communications, an inter-sector volunteers’ federation established by six enterprises and NGOs, demonstrated the active role played by voluntary service in boosting the organizing capability of social organizations. This Federation is the first inter-sector volunteers’ federation.

The voluntary service program in support of the children of migrant workers is an important memorizing activity for the 10th anniversary of International Year of Volunteers carried out by Chinese Young Volunteers Association. Catering to the needs of the children of migrant workers, and taking the form of one-to-one support, this activity offers support to the children of migrant workers all over the country in terms of coaching, companionship, self-protection education, donation, and so on.

By December 1, 2011, 30 years has passed since the United Nations Volunteers conducted its first project in China. The China Office of United Nations Volunteers and the China Branch of United Nations Development Programme held celebrations to mark the 30th anniversary and to review the contributions voluntary service made to the peace and development of China over the past three decades. Meanwhile, they issued the Report on 2011 China Voluntary Service during the celebration.

At the same time, other activities were held in various social areas to celebrate the 10th anniversary of International Year of Volunteers, including the “volunteering in the eyes of children” painting contest co-organized by Disney Shanghai Co., LTD and Shanghai Children’s Science and Education Base; collection of volunteer beam–ing faces run by Beijing Huize’er Volunteering Development Center and Baidu Benevolence, the seminar of Young Volunteers in Action attended by student representatives from 92 high schools run by Peking University and the appraisal of China Volunteer Service Highlight Events in the last decade run by the College of Social Development and Public Policy, Beijing Normal University. All these activities embodied the diversity and extensiveness of voluntary service in China.

Chinese Young Volunteers in the Rural Areas of West China

In some of the remote and rural areas of west China, the social and economic condition still lags behind largely due to the lack of specialists in education, health care, agriculture and science and technology. To improve the local situation, many Chinese young volunteers devoted their time and talent to the grassroots people in the west without considering their personal gain. As a result of this, the College Students “Go West” Volunteer Project comes into being, encouraging college
graduates to go to west China and take jobs as volunteer teachers and doctors. Since its implementation in 2003, thousands of college graduates go to the rural areas in the west through the project every year. Besides being teachers and doctors, they also provide service related to agricultural technology to the local farmers. Up until now, the project has witnessed the participation of more than 80 thousand young volunteers, many of whom have done a much-acclaimed job.

An Liqing is one of the volunteers. Born in a herdsman’s family, she went back to the grassland in Helingeer County in Inner Mongolia after her graduation in 2006. For the next two years, she worked as an agricultural consultant among the local farmers. As her explanation was direct, simple and humorous, more than 20 thousand farmers came to her for consultation in two years. To do her job better, she studied agricultural books by herself, did surveys in the farmland and visited the local farmers to make plans in her days off. Most important of all, she founded a sponsorship of 200 thousand RMB for the local herdsmen to buy new species of cow. The income of the local farmers increased greatly with her efforts, and she became the girl who could bring fortune in their eyes.

Xu Benyu is another familiar name to the Chinese people. His story of teaching in the remotest mountainous villages moved many Chinese. After graduation in 2003, he went to the Rock Cave Primary School in Dafang County, Guizhou province. The local people were extremely poor and there was literally no transportation to the village. Even the school was built up with the donation from some good-hearted people. But Xu didn’t pay attention to the harsh condition and spent a whole year there. After that he went to another school in the same county – Big Stone Primary School, a school with even worse condition. Every day he had to walk 15 kilometers on the mountain path to the classroom, and he walked like this for another whole year. His perseverance brought knowledge and hope to the local kids, and encouraged more Chinese young people to join voluntary service in west China.

An Liqing and Xu Benyu are only two examples of the thousands of outstanding young volunteers in China. With dreams in their heart, they are willing to help the local people to live a better life and make their own contribution to the development of west China.
China and Europe are both the representatives of the ancient civilizations of the East and West, which interacted with each other and made a common progress together. Historically, China and Europe have created brilliant cultures, and led the world by their advanced ideology, culture and technology. They both made an outstanding contribution to the promotion of human civilization and social progress. In the context of economic globalization and multi-polarization going deeply, China and the EU respectively made the strategic choices of “reform and opening up” and “self-reliance”, exploring the distinctive mode of development for the modernization of human society.

Under the circumstance of the increasingly close China-EU political, economic and trade relations, people-to-people exchanges between China and Europe, which has become the “third pillar” of China-EU relations, plays an irreplaceably important role in deepening understanding and enhancing friendship between China and the EU. Youth is the most active factor in the people-to-people exchanges between China and Europe. The dialogue and communication between young people from China and the EU play an important part in the future of China-EU relations, carrying the hope of the development of China-EU relations.

EU-China Year of Youth is the first thematic year held since China and EU established diplomatic relations. During the whole year, China and EU endeavored to carry out hundreds of activities for youth exchange between China and Europe, which included flagship events, priority events, partnership events and media campaign. There were more than 10 thousand Chinese and European young people involved directly in those events, and 160 thousand participated by means of new media. Those activities had a wide social impact, and opened up a new chapter in people-to-people exchange between China and Europe.

EU-China Year of Youth is a bridge of communication. There is a Chinese old saying that the relationship between two countries is based on the affection between two countries’ civilians. The basis of China-EU relations lies in civil society, and youth is the future. In the past year, Chinese and European young people deepened understanding and enhanced friendship by a series of experimental, participatory and interactive activities, which injected new vitality to the youth exchange between China and Europe.

EU-China Year of Youth is a window of showing open and tolerance. It is based on people-to-people exchange, and held many thematic forums on culture, employment and entrepreneurship, sustainable development, youth participation and volunteer service. Chinese and European young people launched an equal, frank and deep dialogue and discussion on topics which concern all of them. It set a successful example of future China-
EU youth exchange.

EU–China Year of Youth is a journey of expanding consensus. Both China and Europe are now in the pivotal period of development, which requires young people from both sides to work hard together to grasp the new opportunity brought by China’s twelfth Five-Year Plan and Europe 2020 Strategy, to work together to create a new stage for China–EU win–win cooperation. In EU–China Year of Youth, young people from both sides learned from each other and got closer by their friendly exchanges. They reached consensus on some issues, and laid the foundation for deepening China–EU youth exchanges.

Standing on the new historical starting point, the All-China Youth Federation would like to work closely with our EU counterparts to jointly promote the new development of China–EU youth exchange cause. Firstly, continue to work on the long term mechanism of China–EU youth exchange. Regularly hold China–EU youth policy dialogue, undertake certain projects like China–EU youth leaders exchange visits and international forum on China–EU youth organizations’ development. Secondly, devote ourselves to establish an open, interactive, cooperative platform which would encourage more young people and youth organizations from China and EU to find their partnership and to start friendly cooperation. Thirdly, let media play a full role in wide spreading fruits of communication activities, through positive and attractive ways of communication, exchange, contact and assembly which are attractive to young people, so more Chinese and European young people could have a more overall, rational and objective cognition of each other’s development achievements and practical challenges.

The year of 2011 witnessed the creativity, energy and youthful style which embodied in the exchange between Chinese and European youth. We have every reason to believe that the young people from China and Europe will play a more important role in the sustained and healthy development process of China–EU relations, making more active contributions, and writing a more glorious chapter of youth.
On October 12, French Youth Delegation paid a visit to University of International Business and Economics.

From October 17 to 22, a 20–member Chinese Youth Delegation attended the Second China–Saudi Youth Friendship Meeting in Saudi Arabia. The picture shows that the Chinese Delegation visited King Abdullah University of Science and Technology.

October 23 witnessed the group discussions of the EU–China Youth Leaders Summit.

On December 13, ACYPL Delegation visited the Tai Po Central Primary School, in Taizhou, Jiangsu Province.

On December 15, Mongolian Youth Leaders of Political Parties Delegation visited Huazhong Agricultural University.
1. On November 5, the 4th group wedding of migrant workers supported by the Chongqing Municipal Youth Federation was held in the Square of Yan-yu Park, Nanbin Road, Nan’an District, Chongqing. 66 couples took part in the group wedding.

2. On November 18, the final match of the 6th “Power of Youth” Campus Singing Contest was held in the auditorium of Guizhou College of Finance and Economics.

3. On November 24, nearly 100 children of migrant workers were working for the embroidery of a national flag in Jinan, Shandong Province.

4. On October 21, the closing ceremony of the 3rd University Students’ Art Performance and Exhibition of Zhejiang Province was held at the Shiyan Theater of Zhejiang Vocational Art College.