

Project Title: **Professionalization of Social Work In Mainland China**

Project Summary:

Social Work has been newly emerged in Mainland China. There were great demands for professionalization and continuous professional development for the social workers in the country. This project attempted to make an empirical examination for the task performed by various personnel in different services of the Ministry of Civil Affairs. Because of the diversity of cultural inheritance and the socio-economic development in the country, data collection from different cities (including Beijing, Shanghai, Xi'an, Qui Zhou and Shenzhen) have been made. Task Requirements and Position Classification structure was made to the Ministry of Civil Affairs. Recommendations on the continuous professional development (CPD) were also made in order to enhance further development of the professional competence.

In 2008, due to the sudden happening of Sichuen Earthquake, the Ministry of Civil also requested the assistance to explore the contribution of social work in post-disaster reconstruction. 28 social worker stations have been visited and studied. 8 models of social work practice in post-earthquake reconstruction were identified and developed. Such attempts did make a significant impacts on the development of contribution of social work in natural disaster, later become part of the curriculum in the area.

In 2009, Shenzhen was nominated by the Central Government to pilot the implementation of professional structure of social workers. Such attempt would make an demonstration for other cities in the future.