

## Expert Workshop on Food Safety Governance

Thursday 10 January 2013 – 14:00 - 17:30

School of Public Policy and Management, Tsinghua University – Third floor

### Workshop description

#### **Food safety management and regulation is a highly dynamic policy field.**

Over the past few years, institutional arrangements of food safety governance have been re-examined and re-structured in many countries worldwide, including China. Recent institutional reforms refer to improved detection methods of hazards in food, to a separation of risk assessment and risk management institutions, an extended monitoring of food safety with respect to food imports, stronger emphasis on detecting food-borne diseases more quickly and effectively and, last but not least, for increasing the inclusion of stakeholders in the design of food safety policies. While most changes aim at improving the safety of food itself, **regaining the trust of all parties in the existing food safety governance is an underlying theme and critical for its success.**

#### **Objective and approach**

The overall objective of this expert workshop is to contribute science-based knowledge for improved food safety governance. It will bring together different perspectives from science, public administration and regulation, and industry. The central theme is **how changes in food safety governance have contributed to building trust and what approaches and mechanisms are further needed to increase trust.** Trust is chosen as one of challenges that the various risk- management approaches and regulations seek to address. In particular, speakers will address how different countries deal with the regulatory challenges of food safety – with a focus on China in comparison to other perspectives.

In order to generate analytical lenses, three issues are identified from the global patterns of changes in food safety governance:

- (1) The allocation of responsibilities for risk assessment, risk management and regulation;
- (2) The significance and acceptability of procedural norms such as transparency and public and stakeholder involvement;
- (3) The handling of scientific uncertainties and ambiguities associated with food risks.

New policy developments have emerged over the past decade all over the world. These include: the increasing recognition of the need for a formal separation between risk-assessment and risk-management activities in food safety regulation; the more general tendency of the transformation of national governance structures directed towards rendering policy-making more inclusive and more closely connected to consumers; and the adoption of different key concepts such as evidence-based risk assessment or the adoption of precautionary approaches as a key tenet for protecting human health and the environment.

In the context of trust building, presentations and discussion at the workshop will be organised around two issues: **regulatory frameworks and the public perception and response towards food safety.**

**The workshop is co-organised with and sponsored by**



## Workshop Agenda

**13:45 Registration – SPPM Third Floor – Room 321**

**14:00 – 14:10 Welcome and introduction**

Welcome from the Chairs:

- **Chengyu ZHAN**, China University of Political Science and Law
- **Marie-Valentine FLORIN**, IRGC

Moderators:

- **Kai KOTTENSTEDE**, Swissnex China
- **Ortwin RENN**, University of Stuttgart; IRGC

**14:10 - 14:50 Session 1 – Confidence and trust building in food safety governance**

- **Introductory remarks: Ortwin RENN**, University of Stuttgart; IRGC  
*The Importance of trust in international food safety risk governance*
- **Peng LIU**, Renmin University of China  
*The Pathology of Trust Deficiency and its Rebuilding in China's Food Safety Regulation*
- **Discussion**

**14:50 – 16:00 Session 2 – Roles of institutions and public regulation**

- **Introductory remarks: Kai KOTTENSTEDE**, Swissnex China  
*Food Safety Regulation in Europe*
- **Ning LI**, China National Center for Food Safety Risk Assessment (CFSA)  
*Food Safety Risk Surveillance and Assessment in China*
- **Panel discussion on food safety regulation with speakers and other experts**

**16:00 – 16:15 Tea Break**

**16:15 – 17:30 Session 3 – Standards and the role of industry in food safety governance**

- **Reto BATTAGLIA**, Food Safety Consultant  
*Certificates: Use and Abuse of Food Safety Standards*
- **Huang BIN**, Certification and Accreditation Administration, P.R. China (CNCA)  
*The Application of HACCP and Food Defense Plan in Food Facility*
- **Xuefeng DI**, Corporate Quality Management, Nestlé China  
*Food Safety Risk Management in Nestlé China*
- **Panel discussion on multi-stakeholder food safety governance with speakers and other experts:**
  - **Megan TRACY**, James Madison University
  - **Philippa JONES**, China Policy (tbc)

**17:30 – 17:45 Conclusion**

## Speakers' Abstracts and Biographies

**Chengyu ZHAN** Associate Professor,  
School of Political Science and Public Management,  
China University of Political Science and Law

Zhan, Chengyu is an associate professor in the School of Political Science and Public Management of China University of Political Science and Law. His research, teaching, and consultancy work focus on emergency management and food safety regulation. During the Sichuan Wenchuan Earthquake and the Sanlu milk powder event, Zhan completed important policymaking research for the Chinese government. He has published over 20 articles in top Chinese journals, such as Cass Journal of Political Science and Chinese Public Administration.

**Marie-Valentine FLORIN** Managing Director, International Risk Governance Council

Marie-Valentine Florin is the Managing Director of IRGC. Since 2010, she has been involved in the restructuration of the Foundation and the reorientation of its activities to meet the demand of IRGC's audience and sponsors.

She spent the first part of her career (1984-1999) in an international socio-cultural research and marketing consulting firm, as group finance director and chief operating officer. Before joining IRGC in 2006, she was consulting local authorities on strategies and practices for sustainable development. She was also involved in philanthropic and humanitarian organisations.

Marie Valentine Florin graduated from Science Po in Paris (political science and public administration), and then earned a post-graduate diploma in marketing strategy from the same institute. In 2001 and 2006 she studied sustainable development and environmental diplomacy at University of Geneva.

**Kai KOTTENSTEDE** PhD Candidate, University of Tübingen; Communications Specialist

### Presentation abstract

In his presentation, Kai will discuss the characteristics and features of the current food safety governance in the Europe Union. The major reform in the food safety governance system in recent years has been the separation of risk assessment and risk management following the BSE crisis. This improvement can be seen as an attempt to generate trust in the food safety system.

### Biography

Kai Kottenstede is a PhD candidate at the University of Tübingen and a communications specialist. He studied political science in Münster and Nottingham. His current research interests are in risk regulation and risk communication, especially in the field of food safety. In his thesis he explores the interrelation between food safety regulations on the global level and China's food safety regulations. Kai was responsible to advice swissnex China as an academic expert during the preparation of the workshop. Since 2012 he serves as an external expert for the Sino-German Food Safety project of the German Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, GIZ. Additionally, he has been appointed Senior Consultant for a German communication agency with special expertise in China. Kai worked as Head of unit for the Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR), a German government body responsible for assessing and communicating risks. Prior to that, he worked as a Communication Consultant for a major German communication consultancy, advising German DAX-listed companies. Among other tasks, he supported a chemical company in its European wide risk communication strategies on pesticides. In 2012 he wrote an introduction

in risk communication for the GIZ. Together with colleagues, he published a peer reviewed article in the Zeitschrift für Politikberatung on how to theoretically and empirically strengthen public affairs as a communication discipline.

**Ortwin RENN** Associate Professor, School of Public Administration,  
Renmin University of China

Ortwin Renn serves as full professor and Chair of Environmental Sociology and Technology Assessment at Stuttgart University (Germany). He directs the Stuttgart Research Center for Risk and Innovation (ZIRUS) at Stuttgart University and the non-profit company DIALOGIK, a research institute for the investigation of communication and participation processes in environmental policy making. Renn also serves as Adjunct Professor for “Integrated Risk Analysis” at Stavanger University (Norway) and as Affiliate Professor at Beijing Normal University. Ortwin Renn has a doctoral degree in sociology and social psychology from the University of Cologne. His career included teaching and research positions at the Juelich Nuclear Research Center, Clark University (Worcester, USA), the Swiss Institute of Technology (Zuerich) and the Center of Technology Assessment (Stuttgart). His honours include an honorary doctorate from the Swiss Institute of Technology (ETH Zurich), an honorary affiliate professorship at the Technical University Munich and the “Distinguished Achievement Award” of the Society for Risk Analysis (SRA). Among his many political advisory activities the chairmanship of the “State Commission for Sustainable Development” (German State of Baden-Württemberg) and the participation in the “Federal Government’s Ethics Committee on Germany’s Energy Futures” are most prominent. Renn is primarily interested in risk governance, political participation and technology assessment. He has published more than 30 books and 250 articles, most prominently the monograph “Risk Governance” (Earthscan: London 2008).

**Peng LIU** Associate Professor, School of Public Administration,  
Renmin University of China

### **Presentation abstract**

#### **The Pathology of Trust Deficiency and Its Rebuilding in China’s Food Safety Regulation**

Most social scientists are realizing the active role social trust is playing in fostering a high-quality risk governance regime, including food safety regulation. Based on empirical data, this presentation will examine the status quo of trust deficiency in China current’s food safety regulation, and evaluate its negative impact on the promotion of its food safety control. Finally, a series of policy suggestions on rebuilding multilateral trustworthiness among various policy stakeholders will be advanced and discussed.

### **Biography**

Liu Peng is currently an associate professor from School of Public Administration & Policy, Renmin University of China. He got his Ph.D. from the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2008 after he graduated from Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou. Currently he is a member of American Political Science Association (APSA) and American Society for Public Administration (ASPA). His research mainly focuses on Chinese politics, risk governance and regulation, food & drug regulation. He is a visiting professor of Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan in US. He is also a part-time research fellow for China Research Center for Public Policy and Change Thinktank. In addition, he serves as an external expert for Chinese National Food Safety Commission, Ministry of Health, State Food and Drug Administration (SFDA). A few of his research papers and articles on Chinese politics and healthcare policies have been published in a series reputable journal such as Asian Survey/Regulation & Governance/China: An International Journal. In addition, his doctoral dissertation on China’s Pharmaceutical Regulatory Regime evolution and reform has been published in Chinese in 2011.

**Ning LI** Assistant Director,  
China National Center for Food Safety Risk Assessment (CFSA)

### **Presentation abstract**

#### **Food Safety Risk Surveillance and Assessment in China**

The Ministry of Health of the Peoples' Republic of China has developed a national surveillance plan for food safety risks to monitor food-borne diseases, food contamination and other food related hazards. This presentation will summarise the objectives of the food safety risk surveillance and present the national reporting system for food contaminants. The China National Expert Committee for Food Safety Risk Assessment (NECRA) is in charge of identifying risk assessment priorities and proposing assessment projects to relevant government departments, building capacity for a strengthened system of food safety risk surveillance and assessment.

### **Biography**

Dr. Li Ning currently serves as the assistant director of China National Center for Food Safety Risk Assessment (CFSA) and one of the leading research scientists. Dr. Li also serves as the deputy general secretary of National Expert Committee for Food Safety Risk Assessment, the member of Agriculture Transgenic Biological Safety Committee, the member of National Pesticide Registration Review Committee, the managing director of Chinese Institute of Food Science and Technology, and the general director of Food Toxicology Expert Committee of Chinese Society of Toxicology.

Dr. Li is mainly engaged in the works for food safety surveillance and risk assessment, as well as working for the government in formulating and revising for food safety standards and regulations. She has took charge of or been a member of a number of major scientific and technological researches and published more than 100 scientific papers.

**Reto BATTAGLIA** Dr. sc. techn. ETH, dipl. chem ETH, CChem FRSC  
Swiss Federal Diploma as Official Food Chemist

### **Presentation abstract**

#### **Certificates! or: There and Back Again. Use and Abuse of Food Safety Standards**

Elaborating on lessons learned from experience with food safety standards, such as the "Global Food Safety Initiative" this presentation will discuss how trust can be established between the various stakeholders involved in the food supply chain. Retailers are expected to share responsibility for the food they sell. Pushing the blame for food safety incidents up-chain invariably and inevitably leads a supplier to cover up. Likewise, supplier should be given time and incentives to improve the quality and standards rather than to concentrate on formal compliance requirements. And last but not least, consumers should be willing to pay a fair price for the food to allow the workforce of food producers, transporters and all involved in the food chain to earn a decent living. If there is no incentive to cheat, and if safe food is getting a fair price, trust could develop.

### **Biography**

R. Battaglia, born 1943, studied organic chemistry at ETH Zurich Switzerland and after postdoctoral research in the UK worked with the food control authority of Zurich. As a director of quality control of Migros, the largest Swiss retailer, he transformed their laboratories into the independent profit centre Swiss Quality Testing Services (SQTS).

He was a member of the Swiss Nutritional Advisory Board and has been actively engaged in developing the Global Food Safety Initiative with the CIES (the international retailers' association).

As Food Safety Director of SinoSwiss ADC Technical Services he brought the first IFS audits to the Chinese food industry. He was instrumental in transforming the former Federation of European Chemical Societies (FECS) to the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuCheMS), a Brussels registered body representing some 150'000

chemists in Europe.

He was teaching food quality assurance at the ETH Zurich, at the University of Parma and from 2011 regularly at Namibia Polytech in Windhoek. He now runs his own food safety consultancy, and has been scientific director of the private food quality and safety laboratory Nehring & Battaglia GmbH in Xiamen China until end 2011.

**Huang BIN**

Director, Department of Registration,  
Certification and Accreditation Administration, P.R. China (CNCA)

#### **Presentation abstract**

##### **The Application of HACCP and Food Defense Plan in Food Facility.**

HACCP and Food Defense Plan (FDP) are important risk management tools applied by food industry. Legislation requirement and application situation of these two systems in China will be briefly introduced in this lecture. Traditional and Non-traditional food safety risk also will be identified and discussed.

#### **Biography**

Director, Division Two, Department of Registration, Certification and Accreditation Administration of the People's Republic of China (CNCA). 1994-2004, China Agriculture University. 2004-2012, CNCA , import and export food establishment registration management.

**Xue Feng DI**

Vice-President, Corporate Quality Management,  
Nestlé Greater China Region

#### **Presentation abstract**

##### **Food Safety Risk Management in Nestlé China**

Through practical examples of dairy products manufacturing in Nestlé China, this presentation will introduce how the Food Safety Risk Management system is implemented in Nestlé and the role of the industry in food safety governance. The Early Warning System established by Nestlé helps identifying and tracking potential issues, as well as preventing and solving market issues and crisis.

#### **Biography**

Mr Di graduated from Shanghai FuDan University, with major in microbiology. He has 16 years of experience working in multinational food companies, at various function in factory, head office and global technology centre. His expertise areas include food safety, quality management, food processing, food technology and regulatory affairs. A member of more than 10 food industry associations and food technology associations, he has been involved in the making and revising of various important food regulation and standards.

Mr Di currently heads the Corporate Quality Management function of Nestlé in Greater China Region, covering 23 factories, 8 joint-ventures and 17 co-manufactures.