

# Amity Outlook

No. 18  
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**Service Joins Us in Harmony**



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### ON THE COVER:

African children are playing in the mud. Amity-Watsi program aims to help people from the third world to live out of poverty.





## Service Connects Us in Harmony



### Growth of Amity bears witness to the involvement of religions in China's social development

More than 30 years ago, the emancipation of minds and the Reform and Opening-up gave great impetus to China's economic development, which in turn serves as a condition for the progress of social undertakings. Under this historical context, the Amity Foundation was born. The birth of Amity represented the debut of civil forces onto the stage of public society. It marked the extension of reform and opening-up into the social level. The Amity Foundation is composed of people from all walks of life, who respect each other's faith and jointly devote themselves to the social development. They make great contribution by their attempts and efforts in the diversification of the society. It can be said that without China's Reform and Opening up, there would be no birth or growth of Amity; on the other hand, the development of Amity, an organization with religious background, is a successful example of in-depth evolution of China's Reform and Opening-up.

### Work of Amity underlines people-to-people friendship and sharing of resources

Every development of social undertaking cannot go without the support from public resources of all kinds. Like the introduction of foreign capital in cooperation and joint venture for China's economic development, Amity takes in overseas donations to apply independently to our social development, pioneering in the opening-up of public welfare undertakings in China and cross-border civil cooperation. With the funds raised both home and abroad, Amity launched various public welfare programs across the country, providing timely assistance to tens of millions of people and facilitating friendly exchanges and resources sharing among the people of different countries.

### Religious background of Amity is its advantage in conducting overseas exchanges

Since the first group of foreign teachers contributed their expertise in China, which was organized by Amity in 1985, there have been tens of thousands of overseas friends coming to China to cooperate or visit. Merely in the past decade, Amity welcomed the visits from General Secretary of World Council of Churches (WCC), former and present Archbishops

of Canterbury, General Secretary of World Evangelical Alliance (WEA), Global South Primates of the Anglican Church, Bishops' Conference of Nigeria and other Christian leaders and important religious groups from overseas. In 2013, Amity also successfully hosted the official visits of U.S. ambassador Gary Locke, Mrs. Sharon Johnson, wife of Canadian Governor General and other government officials.

### Development of Amity pioneers in faith-based charity

In February 2012, six state departments including the State Administration of Religious Affairs jointly issued the Opinions on Encouraging and Regulating Religious Circles Carrying Out Public Welfare and Charity Activities. The Opinions secured the operation of philanthropic activities by religions from the aspect of government policies. In 2014, Jiangsu Provincial Bureau of Religious Affairs, in conjunction with seven other departments, issued a Notice on further implementation of the Opinions on Encouraging and Regulating Religious Circles Carrying Out Public Welfare and Charity Activities, which further incorporated four local encouraging measures.

Since then, faith-based public welfare philanthropic undertakings underwent a rapid development and obtained certain achievements. However, difficulties and problems persist, in macro policies or within the social environment. There might be a lack of understanding or a lack of capacity and there are concerns about the expansion of religious influence with the help of charity activities. This limits the normal implementation of philanthropic operations of religious communities. Amity, as a Chinese NGO with religious background, has extensive experience and practice in social work, including in project operation, government collaboration and public advocacy, and may serve as a reference for the overall religious circle in China to carry out public welfare activities.

### Epilogue

In a society, any philanthropic activities carried out by religions will bring positive social images. But for religion itself, philanthropic engagement is an essential attribution and a major social function. This does not result from external pressure or policy requirements, but from the practice of the teachings and the spiritual needs of believers to pursue self-fulfillment. For example, in the Christian religion, the Bible says "And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these" (Mark: 12:30-31); "So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead" (James 2:17).

"Not to be ministered unto, but to minister" embodies the social responsibility and the spirit of service that Christians should bear. Love requires action to witness and manifest. As Bishop Ting once said, Amity "helps more and more Chinese Christians realize how wonderful it is to be devoted to the service of people in need." The communication, dialogue, cooperation and sharing among various religions based on services as promoted by Amity will be beneficial to harmony among religions and between religions and the society, also beneficial to human and society, human and human and even physically and intellectually. Therefore, I would like to say: service joins us in harmony!

In 2015, the United Nations passed 17 sustainable development goals during its 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its primary goal is "to eliminate all forms of poverty around the world". With the goal, the religious circle and social service organizations with religious background including Amity should and must devote themselves to this great undertakings of promoting human welfare, building bridges and platforms for service ministries between churches and society. Let us make lives abundant, make society just and make the world a better place.

**T**he Amity Foundation was established at the beginning of China's Reform and Opening up and has been growing in the course of deepening the Reform. Amity is widely working in rural and urban communities in China, following the social developments and providing services for those people in need. The work of Amity shows not only the social role of charity, but also the social adaptation of faith-based charity in China.

Over 30 years of development and change in Amity reflect the significant change of social governance and profound transformation of Chinese society. If we see the establishment of Special Economic Zones as important contribution to China's Economic Reform and Opening-Up, then we can compare/see Amity as a Special Public Welfare Zone in China.



# Amity, a future philanthropic name card for China

## Firm Steps out of China

With the evolving technology, society and economy, human beings on earth are walking towards a global village, in which peace and development become a key subject and require more connection and cooperation between the practitioners. In addition to its existing experience and practice, the Amity Foundation continuously explores new ways and methodologies towards internationalization both for itself and for the philanthropic cause of China.



Madagascar bio-gas program

On July 1, 2015, Amity established its international office in Africa. This is the ever first overseas office set up by a Chinese NGO, a breakthrough in civil society history of China.

On March 9, 2016, Amity formally opened its international office in Geneva, Swiss. Since then, by taking on more international humanitarian responsibility, the Amity Foundation has



African children are playing in mud

been and will be devoting itself in social services, such as education, medical care, poverty relief, development and environmental protection.

New milestones represented a shift by Amity from going out to seek resources to going out to provide services. Selected international projects include: Nepal Earthquake Relief, Madagascar Bio-gas Program and North Korea food aid.

### Overseas Volunteer Service

Since 2011, the Amity Foundation continuously send one or two volunteers to Norway every year to engage in social service for children, the elderly or people with disabilities and up to date 9 volunteers have been dispatched in total. South Korea Exchange Program started from 2015 and two volunteers were sent to South Korea for volunteering work for children and teenagers in March

2016. In 2015, one volunteer was sent by Amity to the United States to work on summer camps and civil society services. The work and services completed by these volunteers contributed to the civil communication, cultural exchange and experience sharing.

### Overseas Disaster Relief

The year 2009 brought about what could be considered the most destructive



typhoons in Philippine history. The Amity Foundation, with joint effort from Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran (Kaisa), a local Filipino and Chinese civil society organization that had extensive experience in rescue, provided relief to Philippine families losing their home in the typhoons. In quick response, Amity Hong Kong Office applied for and successfully received HK\$ 520,000 from the Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee (DRFAC) of Hong Kong SAR Government and sent staff to the affected area for relief work. This opened an era for Amity in direct overseas disaster relief work.



The response to the earthquake relief in Taiwan was the first attempt for Amity after the establishment of the cross-strait joint rescue platform. Many work, such as victim consolation, provision of post-disaster relief meals for school children and provision of multi-functional dining cars, were carried out with the cooperation of the Chinese Christian Relief Association and Chinese Andre Charity Association. On February 9, 2016, the front-page headline article 'President Xi sympathy to Taiwan compatriots reflects the concept of cross-strait common destiny' published in People's Daily specially referred to Amity's earthquake relief work in Taiwan.

In 2015, a devastating earthquake hit Nepal and Amity provided RMB 8.02 million worth of humanitarian rescue and support. This year, upon anniversary of the earthquake, Amity staff went back to the affected region, visited the communities they helped to establish after the earthquake and assessed their post-disaster reconstruction work. To everybody's pleasure, several women development groups had been established, out of which the biggest one had 72 members and even the smallest group had 32. Rules were set up too. Chair persons, vice chair persons and



Amity-Watsi poverty alleviation program



African people's living conditions

even accountants and secretaries had been elected. Regular meetings were held for discussion of communities issues. Everything proved to Amity that these people who struggled their lives out of disaster were seeking and would make a better life.

The Ecuador earthquake saw Amity's first direct disaster relief in South America and turned on a rescue model with joint efforts from the Mainland, Taiwan and Hong Kong. In the process of realizing humanitarian cross-broader rescue activities, Amity worked closely with our international partners through the ACT Alliance network and built up experience in international disaster response.

### Overseas Biogas Program

In the year of 2011, the Amity Foundation started biogas programs in Yongshun County, Hunan Province and Madagascar in Africa. In the international part of the program, Amity brought Madagascan technicians to China teaching them to build biogas tanks and sent Chinese experts to Africa guiding tank building practice. Sharing skills and experience in construction and management of rural biogas stations not only supported Madagascar's sustainable development in green energy but also represented a new era of civil communication and cooperation between Amity and African countries.

### Overseas Food Aid Program

In addition, from 2011 to 2013, the Amity Foundation gave humanitarian support to North Korea by providing RMB 2.11 million worth of food to people suffering from famine there with a view to protect lives.

### Overseas Relief and Aid Program

Together with Tencent Charity Foundation and Watsi teams, the Amity Foundation initiated "Love without Borders – Help People from the Third World" charity program on Tencent online charity platform since 2014. To date, the teams have received RMB 4.23 million donations from 790,000 people, benefiting nearly 1,087 people in need from 17 countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America, including Nepal, Cambodia, Burma, Thailand, the Philippines, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Mali, Tanzania, Somalia, Somaliland, Nigeria, Congo, Malawi, Haiti, Guatemala and Colombia.



## Recent Updates

### Stepping out of China: Perspectives on Chinese NGOs

On November 1, the Amity Foundation held its first forum at the Geneva Welcome Center (CAGI). During this event the development of Chinese NGOs and the Chinese third sector was introduced to 22 representatives from 16 different international NGOs, located in Geneva. Amity, one of the most experienced NGOs in China, is also one of the first social organizations to go abroad.



Forum at the Geneva Welcome Center

projects of Amity have helped to change mindsets and attitudes, reducing stigma towards those with disabilities and transforming approaches to poverty alleviation. Ms. Xie Ying, Senior Executive of International Partnership of the Amity Foundation, gave a Chinese perspective on grassroots NGOs and the growing interest in global concerns. She talked about the need for indigenous Chinese NGOs to become more engaged at the international level and to participate in the international discourse on sustainable development. Mr. Cui Wantian and Prof. Christoph Stueckelberger talked about the social role of entrepreneurs in philanthropy in China and globally.

The Amity Foundation is a member of ACT Alliance and has special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council. The establishment of an office in Geneva will enable Amity to better fulfill its responsibilities as a consultative body and to promote the voice and participation of a Chinese NGO in the international community on social development. Its presence in Geneva will enable the Amity Foundation to bridge the gap between international debates and discourses with social development work at the local level.

## International Conference on Religions, Values, Ethics and Development



In a response to the global call for the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 (SDGs 2030), the Amity Foundation organized an international conference on the theme “Religions, values, ethics and development” on 12-13 December in Nanjing. The conference, co-hosted with the Institute of World Religions of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), brought together more than

200 participants from various sectors including government, academia, local religious leaders and faith-based NGOs. Apart from China, speakers came from 13 countries in Asia, North America, Europe and Latin America. The conference was held in conjunction with the 2nd Annual Cross Straits Exchange on Christian Philanthropy and the 3rd Annual Training Workshop on Social Service and Development for the

five major religions in Jiangsu Province. In his opening address, Mr. Li Guohua, Vice Director of the United Front Work Department, CPC Jiangsu Committee and Director of the Jiangsu Provincial Religious Affairs Bureau, stressed the importance of international conferences in highlighting sustainable development, best practices and the philosophy behind the idea of sustainability. He recognized



the significant contributions made by religions in promoting harmonious development.

Prof. Zhuo Xinping, Director of the Institute of World Religions, CASS, emphasized the importance of religion in attaining “the sustainable development of the Community of Human Destiny” given its spiritual power and close connection to the daily lives of people. Dr. Cornelia Fuellkrug-Weitzel, President of Germany’s largest FBO, Bread for the World, spoke on the theme “Religions, values, ethics and development: perspectives from the German context.” She highlighted the contribution of the churches towards a new concept and guiding values for sustainable development. In his presentation on “Advocacy in Service

and Sustainable Development,” Mr. Qiu Zhonghui, Vice-Chair and General Secretary of Amity Foundation explained Amity’s contributions to sustainable development through its service and advocacy work. Rev. Paul Wei Ti-Hsiang, Head of the delegation from Taiwan, spoke on the positive connections across the straits in religious philanthropy and its importance.

Other speakers included Rev. Dr. Dietrich Werner, Theological Advisor to the President of Bread for the World, who pinpointed the profound implications the Reformation heritage has for Christian contributions to social development and diaconia. Dr. Angela Wong Wai Ching, Vice President for Programs, United Board for Christian Higher



Dr. Philip Wickeri, Advisor to the Archbishop of the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui



Education, demonstrated the vital connection between sustainable development and the need to empower more women particularly through education. Focusing on “The business of religion and the ecology of development,” Martin Palmer, General Secretary, Alliance of Religions on Conservation, presented striking information about how religious organizations own 8% of the habitable surface of the planet, run over 50% of all schools worldwide and are the fourth largest investing group in the world. They thus have the wisdom, spirituality and business knowledge to move beyond disaster to a balance of ecology and development.

Several workshops during the conference provided venues for scholars and social practitioners to have lively exchanges on inter-



faith initiatives, religion and the role of women, the social impact of religious values, and the relationship between religion and sustainable development.

Mr. Wang Shengcai, Director of Policy Study at the State Administration for Religious Affairs, expressed hope that the religious sector would do more for the marginalized, citing some of the SDGs 2030, in particular the goal of zero poverty. In the concluding plenary, Mr. Gu Chuanyong, Inspector of the Jiangsu Provincial Religious Affairs Bureau spoke about “The glorious future

of Philanthropy in China” and the need for the state to encourage this through fewer constraints and more support for the various religions to actively participate in philanthropy.

Prof Zhuo Xinping and Dr. Philip Wickeri, Advisor to the Archbishop of the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui, gave insightful and thought provoking summaries at the end of the conference.

A highlight of the conference was the launching of the Chinese version of “Voices from Religions on Sustainable

Development” by Ulrich Nitschke, Head of the Secretariat of the “International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development” (PaRD), who also introduced the PaRD initiative to the audience. On the 13th December, the second day of the conference, which coincided with the memorial date of the Nanjing Massacre, leaders of the five major religions in China offered prayers for peace and a minute of silence was observed to remember the victims.



# The 3<sup>rd</sup> Training Workshop on Religion and Philanthropy in Jiangsu Province

In furtherance of the healthy development of social service by religious groups and the expansion of religious teams engaging in social service and philanthropy, the

Amity Foundation organized the 3rd Training Workshop on Religion and Philanthropy 12-15 December 2016. The training workshop lasted for four days and gathered 67 members from

Buddhism, Taoism, Islam, Catholicism and Christianity groups of Jiangsu Province and more than 30 working staff from relevant government authorities responsible for religion-related work.







In the first two days of the training workshop, trainees attended the International Conference on “Religions, Values, Ethics and Development” and the 2nd Cross Straits Christian Social Service Forum, in which representatives from the five religions communicated and discussed the roles of religions in promoting social harmony, charitable undertakings and the fulfillment of the 2030 UN Sustainable Development Goals (2030 SDGs). On the third day, the trainees made on-site visits to Zhenjiang Christian Church, Yangzhou Gaomin Temple and Yangzhou Wenfeng Temple to exchange social service practices at these religious sites. On the last day, Professor Jin Jinping from Law School of Peking University gave lectures on the newly promulgated Charity Law, which received warm welcome and appraisal from the trainees. During the training workshop, Tan Hua, Director of community development and environmental protection of the Amity Foundation, also gave detailed introduction on the poverty relief work in Sandu County of Guizhou Province conducted by religious groups across China and relevant projects of the Amity Foundation in Sandu County.

In the concluding plenary, Li Guohua, Vice Minister of the United Front Work Department, CPC Jiangsu Committee and Director of the Jiangsu Religious Affairs Bureau, recognized the significant contribution made by religious groups in social services and applauded for the training workshop that, as a platform, enabled five religions to exchange their experience and practice in social work. He also encouraged and suggested on the next steps of philanthropy work and social service, especially poverty relief work, at the end of the workshop.

## Amity Conference on Hospice Care attracts 700 participants



On October 28 and 29, 2016, the 3rd Amity International Conference on Senior Service followed by a nursing forum was held in Nanjing. More than 30 experts and scholars from China and overseas and about 700 employees of the sector attended the conference. The main focus was on hospice care, which aims to improve the quality of lives for dying patients. Hospice is still in an infancy stage of development in China.

“Hospice care focuses on reducing the symptoms of diseases and alleviating

their pain within weeks or months before death rather than treatment”, said Russell E. Hilliard, an expert in art therapy research. Another focus of the conference was the management of elderly chronic diseases as dementia and Alzheimer.

The conference was supported by Amity’s international partner organization Bread for the World and organized by the Amity Foundation, the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council and the Nursing School and Hospital of Nanjing Medical University.

The conference attracted high media attention and raised awareness in the wider society and among experts in the sector due to a multiplying effect.

The Amity Foundation is following a holistic approach to provide professional elderly care in nursing homes and to the general society by an integrated team of social workers, nurses, therapists, volunteers and doctors. Amity’s annual conference on elderly services functions as a platform for mutual exchange, sharing of best practices, discussion and wider advocacy and community outreach.



## Chinese translation of the book “Voices from Religions on Sustainable Development” released in Nanjing



On the morning of December 12, 2016, the Chinese version of the book *Voices from Religions on Sustainable Development*, translated by the Amity Foundation, was released at the International Conference on Religions, Values, Ethics and Development in Nanjing, China. Participants included Qiu Zhonghui, Vice President and General Secretary, Dr. Theresa Carino, Senior Consultant, Xie Ying, Executive Director of the Geneva Office, Wu Meijuan, Research Coordinator from the Amity Foundation, and Ulrich Nitschke, Head of the

Secretariat of the “International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development” (PaRD). “I hope this book will help people to realise the contribution of religion for social development,” said Dr. Theresa Carino, Senior Consultant of the Amity Foundation, who coordinated the translation in close cooperation with the GIZ Sector Programme Values, Religion and Development.

The original English version of the book *Voices from Religions on Sustainable Development* was published by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Its publication marked the launch of PaRD during the international Berlin conference *Partners for Change – Religions and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* in February 2016. The book illustrates that religion can be part of the solution to the global challenges we face. It brings together the multifaceted wisdom of nine religions and one indigenous tradition on sustainable development. The book demonstrates that common spiritual values are at the heart of all religious and indigenous traditions – and that bringing these virtues to life can contribute to overcoming environmental destruction, poverty, forced migration, corruption, terror, discrimination and injustice. The authors give cause for optimism that the Sustainable Development Goals of Agenda 2030 signed by 193 nations at the United Nations in September 2015 can

be achieved through a conscious individual and collective effort.

The International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development (PaRD) was established in February 2016 at the Berlin conference “Partners for Change – Religions and the 2030 Agenda”. It brings together members and partners from all over the world in order to harness the positive impact of religion in sustainable development and humanitarian assistance. Membership of PaRD is voluntary and open to all bilateral donor countries and multilateral development agencies. Partners are civil society and non-governmental organizations such as religious organizations, secular NGOs, community initiatives, foundations, academic institutions and other relevant development organizations. PaRD recognizes the crucial role these groups of actors play in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda. Therefore, PaRD aims at greater and institutionalized communication and coordination between secular and non-secular actors, while fostering new synergies through cooperation of its members and partners. In addition, PaRD uses synergies with existing networks and initiatives to contribute towards a more coherent and effective international agenda on religion and development.



## Qiu Zhonghui, General Secretary of Amity, was honored as the "2016 China Philanthropy Character of the Year"



On December 27, 2016, the 2016 China Philanthropy Annual Conference was held at National Convention Center in Beijing. On this conference, "2016 Top 10 Philanthropic News" was released and 100 "China Philanthropy Characters of the Year", 100 "China Philanthropy Enterprises of the Year" and 50 "China Philanthropy Journalists of the Year" were awarded.

Mr. Qiu Zhonghui, Vice Executive Chair of the Board and General Secretary of Amity, was awarded the "2016 China Philanthropy Character of the Year" in this annual conference. This has been the third consecutive year that Mr. Qiu has been awarded this special honor.

The awarding words for Mr. Qiu mentioned that "Under the guidance of Mr. Qiu Zhonghui and holding high the vision of 'Abundant lives, more

justice and a better world', the Amity Foundation continuously made record high in fundraising. In 2016, Amity set up an international office in Geneva, Switzerland, and sent a rescue team to the earthquake-stricken area in Ecuador, promoting the internationalization of China's public welfare undertakings and strengthening international exchanges."

## First Board Meeting of Amity's third Board of Directors held in Nanjing



On December 30, 2016, the first Board Meeting of the third elected Board of the Amity Foundation was held in Nanjing. The meeting was attended by 30 persons, including Jiangsu provincial government officials.

During the meeting ten directors of the Board were elected in an open, transparent and democratic process: Qiu Zhonghui, Zhang Keyun, Wang Jun, Lu

Hanlong, Shi Zengzhi, Sun Weimin, Yu Ruiyu, Shen Bin, He Guanghu, Huang Haoming.

In accordance with Amity's constitutions, the Board was pleased to appoint Elder Fu Xianwei, the Chairman of the Three-Self Patriotic Movement (TSPM) of the Protestant Churches in China and Mr Zhao Long, the former Deputy Director of the Jiangsu Provincial People's Congress as new consultants of the Amity Foundation.

Mr Qiu Zhonghui was endorsed as Amity's General Secretary and Vice Executive Chair. Ling Chunxiang, He Wen, Chu Chaoyu, Liu Lei and She Hongyu were appointed as Deputy General Secretaries of the Amity Foundation. The Board also approved the latest Annual Report and Financial Statement.



## Amity Printing celebrates 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



Religious Affairs (SARA) congratulated Amity and pointed out that Amity produces Bibles in more than 100 languages and distributes them to over 70 countries around the world. She emphasized that Amity Printing, the world largest bible printing company and a social enterprise, is a role model for modernization in China.

In a live broadcast during the celebration, Qiu Zhonghui gave cordial greetings to local Amity colleagues in the recently opened office in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Furthermore, Amity staff presented dancing performances and a newly formed Amity International Rescue Team was introduced.

The Amity Printing Company is a joint venture between the United Bible Societies and the Amity Foundation. Founded in 1986 the company printed its 150 millionth Bible this year. Amity Printing Ltd. is a social enterprise that was rewarded with several national and international prizes.

On November 8, 2016, the Amity Foundation celebrated the 30th anniversary of the Amity Printing Company and the completion of printing 150 million copies of the Bible. More than 300 guests, including staff, political representatives, dignitaries, business partners and retired workers, attended the celebration.

Mr Qiu Zhonghui, Secretary General of the Amity Foundation, thanked all guests for their strong support of Amity's work. He emphasized that during the past 30 years Amity never lost its core focus - to serve the Chinese church and the Chinese people. Furthermore, he outlined the upcoming internationalization of Amity with the aim to extend and enhance its services for people in need all over the world.

Guo Wei, Director of the Second Department of the State Administration for

## Major Southeast Asian NGOs visit Amity

On the afternoon of October 28<sup>th</sup>, a delegation of representatives from 26 non-governmental organizations of Southeast Asian countries visited the Amity Foundation. The members were from 11 different countries including Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, East Timor and Laos. Mr. Qiu Zhonghui, Secretary General of Amity welcomed the delegation. He informed them about the

Amity Foundation's former involvement in the Southeast Asian region. Together with international and local partners, the Amity Foundation has responded to natural disasters, such as the typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines or the Nepal earthquake. The guests expressed their gratitude to Amity for supporting the international humanitarian relief efforts during natural disasters. During the discussion the participants realized that Amity's vision

of justice, fairness and civic cooperation in the fields of environmental protection, disaster management, community development, health care and drug rehabilitation is consistent with the aspirations of its Southeast Asian partners. The guests expressed their hope that China's social organizations, including Amity, will continue and increase their efforts to help all countries in Southeast Asia to develop together.





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The Amity Foundation is an independent Chinese voluntary organization founded in 1985 on the initiative of Chinese Christians to promote education, social services, health, rural development, environmental protection, disaster relief, and poverty reduction in the underdeveloped areas of China. Amity projects have benefited more than ten million people both at home and abroad.

The Amity Foundation has more than 80 full-time staffers at its Nanjing headquarters. Hundreds of volunteers work with Amity all over China. The Amity Foundation receives funds from partners abroad as well as in Hong Kong and mainland China.