
The Third C-WINS Workshop was held in Hangzhou

On 4th November, the international seminar on Reproducible and Promotable Natural Resource Institution Reform: Theory and Practice and the 3rd CWINS (China Workshop in Institutional Analysis of Social-Ecological Systems) successfully ended in Hangzhou, China. This seminar brings together nearly 150 experts and scholars devoted to the study on land and natural resources. They conducted in-depth exchanges on natural resource reform from the fields of economics, management, politics, law and sociology.



As the first sub-venue for CWINS, the Land System Reform (Moganshan) Forum began on November 2nd in Deqing County, Zhejiang Province. The forum focused on the three main reforms of the China's rural land system, and more than 20 experts and local officials from 7 pilot areas in China participated in this forum. The participants reached a preliminary consensus that a unified value is essential to lead the land system reform and the historical development perspective is necessary on seeing the new changes and trends in the reform. Thus, the government needs to handle the relationship between public power and private rights, solve the problem of profit distribution among different subjects, establish a diversified governance model according to local conditions, avoid the pitfalls in the path-design of the reform and

revise the theoretical problems that may arise in order to better realize the land resources value.

The current CWINS had a total of 15 keynote speeches, 44 sub-venue speeches, as well as 14 sub-venue comments. Scholars discussed on several topics such as “theory of resource and environment governance”, “transitions of nature and society”, “reproducible and promotable institutions” and “the land institution reforms”. The sub-venue focused on themes of "institutions and poverty governance", "reform of rural land institutions", "urban expansion and space optimization", "legal system of land reform", "urban land use efficiency and carrying capacity". The seminar also reported the latest research of China Urban Spread Index (CUSI) as a result of the cooperation between the Land Academy for National Development of Zhejiang University and High-level Data Center of Zhejiang University.

The scholars believe that although the operation of the social–ecological systems is complex and diverse, the monitoring of natural resources is still realizable. As an important component of the social–ecological systems, the institutions affect the development and utilization of natural resources and the outcomes of socio-economic development. When generalizing the reproducible and promotable experience in the governance of natural resource, Chinese scholars mainly focus on the institutions’ allocation effects from the macro perspective, while European scholars tend to explore the motivations behind the choice of institutions from the micro level. But scholars also stress that there are no standards can fit all situations.

Prof. Dr. Rong Tan, from the Land Academy for National Development Zhejiang University, the organizer of the seminar, made a brief summary. He indicated that based on this cooperative, mutual-benefit and all-win platform of CWINS, through the communication between scholars from China and the West and with the investigation of local practitioners, more and more theoretical outcomes on natural resource governance could be realized, meeting the increasing needs of practice not only in China but also worldwide.