

‘1000 People march’ along Panlong Jiang River in Kunming

GRÜNE LIGA Water Policy Officer Michael Bender participated in the Panlong Jiang River march in Yunnan province capital Kunming on Sunday, November 3rd together with YEDI-Staff Member Zhang Lu. The ‘1000 people march’ on the river was organised by the local NGO “AA Joy Excursion” Activists, NGO’s and University students marched with a number of school environment groups. On the starting rally some money was collected from the participants dedicated to meet the costs of the provided food and to support less income scholars. Groups wore different coloured organisation T-Shirts and waved their River March flags on their way. At the first station scholars took samples from the Panlong Jiang River to determine the water quality, like Nitrogen, Oxygen, Phosphorous and pH. Though the river had apparently very little current at the course of the march and looked rather unclear the figures suggested that the situation was not too bad. The citizens’ representative for the river, who acts like a kind of a mediator between the public and the administration, explained that 2 sewage works have increased their Quality standards from V to III, (whatever that means in real terms). On the next stop the participants rested in big circles, listened to speeches and performed songs. Then the march continued until it reached the Dianchi Lake which still is very heavily polluted as YEDI official Liu Yun stated. Nevertheless some macrophytes can be found in the river and the place it enters the Dianchi Lake. After taking some photos buses that were provided for this event took the participants back to town. The whole event lasted from 10:00 o’clock in the morning to 3.30 pm (Bus departure).

Please see the news and photo link in the YEDI website.

http://www.yedi.org.cn/index.php?article_id=3&clang=1&sub_id=37
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Following the river march Zhang Lu and Michael Bender took the chance to visit a green NGO-Market providing for some organic food and presenting various social and environmental activities of the Kunming NGO-Community like protecting ancient trees (Green Kunming), Products produced by local minority people and drawing calligraphy. On a stage products were sold in an auction.

The German environmental ngo **GRÜNE LIGA** e.V. (Green League) and the **Yunnan Environment Development Institute (YEDI)** established a partnership under the **EU-China NGO Twinning 2013** a project organised by **Stiftung Asienhaus** and supported by the **Robert Bosch Foundation**. While YEDI’s Executive Manager Liu Yun visited Germany for a month in September/October GRÜNE LIGA Head of Water Policy Office Michael Bender stays as YEDI’s guest in China for the whole of November 2013.

Websites:

EU-China Twinning 2013: <http://www.eu-china-twinning.org/>

GRÜNE LIGA Water Policy Office: www.wrrl-info.de

Yunnan Environmental Development Institute (YEDI): www.yedi.org.cn



GRÜNE LIGA, water policy office
Yunnan Environment Development Institute

