

## **Plan of Personal Commitment and Action**

The GEG Forum brings together the founders of the international environmental governance system and we current leaders which offers us a good dialogue opportunity. Through this process, our two generations can communicate and understand each other much better. The rich experiences of the founders and the spirits of our new generation can be perfectly combined and find a practical and workable way to feed into the contemporary political process. The participants from different disciplines all over the world bring our knowledge, experience as well as network to share with each other which will expand our own horizon on this issue. It also will draw the attention of the media, academic institutions as well as the public concern all over the world. GEG is not only a single forum but a long-term project which can exert incremental and lasting influence to the international political process on the future environmental governance.

As a Ph.D. student from China majored in International Relations and doing research on China's participation in multilateral climate regime, I would like to bring the research I am doing to the forum and share with other emerging environmental leaders. I would argue that multilateral climate regime not only rely on the formal international institutions like UN base on UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol but also rely on the informal international institutions like G8 especially G8+5 since 2005 and the different role of formal and informal institutions in global climate governance should be clarified and combined. China's participation in these multilateral climate regimes is also what I would like to share with other emerging environmental leaders from all over the world. I have deep impression and own experience of how environmental conscience in China has been raised from the grass roots because my experience of working in the Student Union of Qingdao University and been a member of the Environmental Association during my undergraduate study. I also have a keen eye on the development of China's environmental NGO mainly those grassroots student NGOs in universities because a survey is planned by two young colleges from Qingdao University and Shanghai International Studies University and me to carry out this summer if we can successfully apply the annual survey project supported by Chinese Environmental Culture Promotion Association. Although we are in the early stage of that survey, we did a good preparation and got a general landscape of how China's grassroots NGO's contribution to local environmental policy and governance. Also by the chance of study in G8 Research Group in University of Toronto, I got the chance to know the working mechanism of how civil society exert influence to the G8 summit by "alternative summit" and "Live G8" which set up a good example for the Chinese civil society to work with or give pressure to policymakers. By the chance of this forum, I want to share what I am working on and what I know with other emerging environmental leaders and build our network afterward. Contributing to the GEG need not only individual but a network sharing the same goal and core value, I definitely believe the forum will establish a good platform for the young people from different disciplines and different countries to meet each other and build our future networks. By combining our knowledge, experience and insights on GEG, we also

can expand our own horizon and further motivate the people around us including students, community, civil society as well as the policymakers.

As the global environmental governance is divided into three levels including local, national and global, my contributions will also focus on these three levels.

First and foremost, after I come back to Toronto from the forum, I will deliver a Ph.D. talk in Munk Center to inform the outcome and my recent research in early September before I go back to China. On September 22, I will go back to Shanghai International Studies University. A talk about the outcome of my visiting study and attending international conference like GEG forum is required by my home institution. By doing these, I definitely believe it can expand the impact of the Forum and call for the attention of students and researchers who are also interested in this field and strengthen the global network of international environmental leaders. Our institution Shanghai International Studies University focuses on the international institutions and regime. We have established the Research Center of China and International Institutions and also planning to hold a Fulbright Graduate Student Symposium of International Relations in which Global Environmental Governance will be one of the main topic to discuss. These activities by my home institution will be the follow-up and second step after our first step to generate greater collective action by the attendance of emerging leaders at this Forum.

Secondly, as a Ph.D. student in International Relations I would like to contribute myself to the research on global climate governance. I am going to publish a paper in Chinese academic journal on G8's Global Climate Governance and analyze the advantage of informal international institutions' role in global environmental governance through which I hope can rise the attention of academic field to bring the informal mechanism into the future reform of multilateral climate regime. In this article I will give my proposal on G8+5 and MEM as a steering mechanism and institutions to coordinate quickly and link-up climate issue with trade, investment and equity. As we know before Copenhagen, there is G20 in April and G8, MEM in June which is the informal international institutions which put environment as well as trade and economic into their agenda. With the limited members, it's easy to make coordination and tradeoff which can provide an opportunity to contribute a new collective vision for renewed and strengthened global environmental governance before going to a larger forum in Copenhagen. My paper will focus on this and come out during 2009 summer. Beside that, I am doing my Ph.D. dissertation on comparing the role of UN and G8 in the global environmental governance architecture. I will finish the first draft of my Ph. D. dissertation by the end of 2009 when the Copenhagen Conference will take place. As for the market mechanism in coping with climate change, I also carry out a "211" project in Shanghai International Studies University which focus on the Carbon Trading System and its practice in China. It is a 2-year project began from December 2008 which requires three academic papers and one working paper. All these will contribute to the research of global environmental governance.

Thirdly, for the local level, city plays an important role in the local environmental governance. Cities in China like Shanghai go ahead in the environmental policy. By

using our network of senior graduates who work in Shanghai Municipal Environment Department, Student Union can build epistemic community within young generation involving more students from environment background and do voluntary environment education to the community and primary school to enhance the social awareness of environment, accelerate the change to more environmental friendly life-style and reduce coal burning in household and inform the young students the labeling system like fair-trade coffee etc.