

The mayor initiates new contact in China

At a big ceremony the mayor of Sonderborg, Erik Lauritzen, signed a new friendship city treaty with Baoding located 150 kilometers southwest from Beijing. The mayor was invited to China by Danfoss, but hopes to be able to open more doors to the big market with big companies.

By Sonderborg municipality



Exchanging gifts is an important part of attending ceremonies in China. That's how contacts are initiated both personally and professionally. The picture above displays mayor Erik Lauritzen giving a gift to the mayor of Jinan, Wang Zhonglin. Fotos: Poul Valdemar Nielsen

Baoding is undergoing rapid development with its industry- and city areas. Especially Danfoss, that creates a lot of its revenue in Baoding, is interested in the area. Today over 12 million people live there and with the official plans from the Chinese government to move a part of the administration from Beijing to Baoding, it will become a very important economic growth center. Besides moving some of the administration, the plans also include a speculation about making the Xuang-area, which is four times bigger than Sonderborg, into a demonstration area for sustainable urbanization.

Vice director of Danfoss China, Alfred Che, is very happy about the new deal:

The deal helps accessing the highest decision- and planning levels. I also view the deal as a platform for other Danish companies that work with green technology and urbanization, he says.

At the signing ceremony and the following lunch Baoding was represented with directors from all departments. Mayor Erik Lauritzen was promoting Sonderborg's green adjustment and the companies that have contributed to Sonderborg reducing Co2 with 35%. Another visit to Sonderborg is about to be planned, where Baoding will experience, how the city is a frontrunner in Denmark, regarding energy efficiency.

After visiting Baoding, the Danish delegation, also consisting of Ceo of CD-link Poul Valdemar Nielsen and director of EUC-south Finn Karlsen, took the bullet train to Jinan, which is one of China's most polluted cities. The city has around 7 million inhabitants and is located between Beijing and Shanghai.

In Jinan the delegation visited the vocational school. The school has around 12,000 students a year and is nominated as one of the best in China. Finn Karlsen got the opportunity to tell about the Danish educational system and EUC. Finn Karlsen sees the potential to make deal on the "further education"-area and is looking forward to following up on the visit.

The day ended with a meeting with the newly elected mayor in Jinan, Wang Zhonglin.

The first part of a tight program was over. Mayor Erik Lauritzen, looks back on a trip full of excitement, having met other mayors that represent more 20 million inhabitants. Great interest was shown regarding Sonderborg's transition to becoming Co2-neutral. There's is no doubt in my mind that we have contributed to opening doors for companies from Sonderborg and EUC-south, he says.

TemplateTags() in code (Designs/ProjectZero/_parsed/pdf.parsed.cshtml). Remove before going live...

ProjectZero | Alston 2 | 6400 Sønderborg | tlf. 31 68 30 90 | post@projectzero.dk (mailto:post@projectzero.dk) | CVR 29 21 56 42