

Experience in China



RTI International is an independent, nonprofit research organization dedicated to conducting research, technical assistance, and training that improves the human condition. Our projects and programs emphasize institutional development through the transfer of analytical tools and methods, dissemination of best practices, and collaborative applied research to test and apply new technologies. RTI's work in developing public-private partnerships, strengthening the capacity of nongovernmental organizations, and collaborating with national and subnational government has supported improvements in the environmental, health, education, and water and sanitation sectors. The following projects are examples of RTI's work in China since 1998.

Health Policy Initiative for the Greater Mekong Region and China, U.S. Agency for International Development (2007–2012)

RTI is working in Beijing, Yunnan, and Guangxi provinces to accelerate the development and implementation of HIV/AIDS policies that increase access to services for most-at-risk populations and people living with HIV/AIDS. This project also supports civil society participation in the policy development process and builds advocacy capacity through small grants and technical assistance to local organizations.

Evaluation Technical Assistance and Impact Evaluation of Pfizer Foundation's Global Health Partnerships (GHP), Pfizer Foundation (2008–2011)

The Pfizer Foundation GHP funds 29 tobacco and cancer control projects around the world, including China. RTI is partnering with the Institute for Global Tobacco Control at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health to provide training and targeted technical assistance to GHP grantees and to evaluate the impact of Pfizer's investment on tobacco- and cancer-related outcomes.

Health Literacy, Chinese Center for Health Education (CCHE) (2010)

RTI is providing technical assistance to the CCHE as staff develop an approach to ascertain health literacy in infectious

disease control. RTI is supporting a pilot study that entails creation of a conceptual framework, identification of health skills, and methods to measure health literacy.

Shandong Flue Gas Denitrification Project, U.S. Trade and Development Agency (2009–2010)

RTI is assisting the Shandong Environmental Protection Bureau (SEPB) to investigate the feasibility and facilitate the retrofitting of deNOx technology at a selected coal-fired power plant in Shandong Province. RTI is also working to enable SEPB to use the deNOx technology and to assess the potential for installing it in power plants throughout the province.

Activities that Advance Methane Recovery and Use as a Clean Energy Source, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) (2006–2010)

RTI has managed three Methane to Markets Partnership projects in China. The latest works with the China University of Petroleum to help oil and natural gas industries use proven technologies for recovering methane before it is lost into the atmosphere. Benefits of the effort include both an increased supply of cleaner fuels to replace coal, and impoundment of a compound that is a potent contributor to global warming.

Evaluation of the Open Language Learning Initiative, U.S. Department of Education (2007–2010)

RTI is evaluating the efficacy of an English-language learning software program developed for middle school students in rural western China. The software provides students the opportunity to improve speaking and listening skills. The e-learning software, developed under a bilateral Memorandum of Understanding between China and the United States, is being evaluated in a school-based trial.

Collaborative HIV/STD Prevention Trial, U.S. National Institute of Mental Health (1999–2010)

RTI is the Data Coordinating Center, providing assistance in protocol development, study management, quality assurance, data collection, management, transmission, and analysis. Using a multisite, Phase III randomized control trial, the efficacy of a community-level intervention is being tested in five countries, including in Fuzhou, China, to reduce HIV and sexually transmitted disease incidence and high-risk behaviors

Global Adult Tobacco Survey, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Foundation (2007–2009)

RTI partnered with the CDC, CDC Foundation, and World Health Organization to assist in the design





and implementation of a standard survey protocol. The survey collected national data on tobacco use in 15 countries, including China, and tracked the countries' progress in implementing tobacco-free programs.

Intercontinental Transport and Climatic Effects of Air Pollutants (ICAP), U.S. EPA (2005–2009)

RTI coordinated ICAP, which aimed to reliably predict the impact of emissions in the Asia-Pacific region by identifying the processes that carry pollutants to other regions and their effects on the global atmosphere. Tasks included compiling emission inventories, an impact assessment of the transport of pollutants over major Chinese metropolitan areas, and developing an air quality decision-support system for the design of cost-effective control strategies in Taiwan.

Refinery Emission Inventory Workshop, Shanghai Provincial Environmental Protection Bureau (2006, 2008)

RTI developed and delivered two workshops aimed at training Shanghai Environmental Monitoring Center staff on estimating and controlling air emissions from refineries and petrochemical plants. Topics included process descriptions, emission sources, pollutants of concern, applicable controls, and estimation tools training.

Shandong Flue Gas Desulfurization Project, Shandong Environmental Protection Bureau (SEPB)/ U.S. Trade and Development Agency (2006–2007)

RTI assisted SEPB with the evaluation and selection of flue gas desulfurization controls to reduce sulfur dioxide emissions at 10 coal-fired power plants in Shandong Province. RTI performed regulatory, environmental, and cost analyses, as well as technical feasibility determinations, to select suitable and cost-effective flue gas desulfurization technologies. Results were presented at a seminar and workshop held in Jinan, Shandong Province, China.

Solid Waste Management Holistic Decision Modeling, World Bank (2006–2007)

RTI worked with the Environment Department of the Shanghai Chengtuo Corporation to assess the cost and environmental performance of alternatives for managing solid waste, including recycling, composting, waste-to-energy, and modern landfills in Beijing and Shanghai.

Air Quality Management, Beijing Municipal Environmental Protection Bureau (2004–2007)

RTI developed an Air Quality Management Decision Support System (AQMDSS) for the Beijing Municipal Government and provided training on its use. The focus was to integrate state-of-the-science models, supporting data, GIS capabilities, and visualization tools into a single AQMDSS with a Chinese user interface. The project included designing the databases; compiling an emissions inventory; and establishing the system, which can be used to forecast air quality, assess environmental impacts of pollution control measures, and analyze cost-benefit tradeoffs.

Economic Studies for the Diseases of the Most Impoverished Program, International Vaccine Institute/ University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (2001–2007)

RTI and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill evaluated the economic aspects of cholera and typhoid fever vaccine initiatives and shigellosis prevention and control activities. Household surveys were used to measure private market demand and willingness to pay for new generation vaccines for typhoid fever and cholera using contingent valuation and choice modeling in Guangxi and Hebei Provinces, in China, and in six other countries.

Education Finance and Decentralization in Asia, Peking University, Chinese Institute of Education Finance Research and the World Bank Institute (2006)

RTI developed and delivered a training course in Beijing on education finance and

decentralization in Asia. The course focused on training in cost effectiveness analysis, disaggregating inequality, block grant simulation, conditional grant and school grant design, funding flow analysis, and education funding gap analysis.

Integrated Water and Environment Management Project (Hebei Province), World Bank/Chinese Academy for Environmental Planning (2002–2006)

RTI helped establish a sustainable integrated water management system in Hebei Province through workshops with the Chinese Ministry of Water Resources and the State Environmental Protection Administration, which resulted in an unprecedented cooperative agreement to share data. In the project's second phase, RTI explained the data structure, standards, and use of the U.S. National Hydrography Dataset, and provided recommendations to construct a database model to zone areas in Hebei Province.

Health & Education Access for Ethnic Minorities in Greater Mekong Sub-region, Asian Development Bank, China Ministry of Health, China Ministry of Education (1999–2001)

Across the Greater Mekong Sub-region, including in Yunnan Province, RTI used participatory processes to identify the special educational and health needs of socially marginalized minorities, and then communicated them to key policy makers. Results included improved policies and services to help increase school enrollment and better health-care coverage of ethnic minorities.

More Information

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