

Hamburg, July 31, 2013

Air pollution in China influences career and life planning

Europeans and Chinese find themselves adversely affected to the same extent by air contamination in China.

A survey on the job portal SinoJobs (www.sinojobs.eu) asked Europeans and Chinese about the effects of severe air pollution in China on their career and life plans. 2349 users of the portal participated in the online questionnaire.

The results reveal a trend that has already been felt by companies recruiting for jobs in China: 42% of the Europeans surveyed are currently living in the People's Republic of China, and 45% of them plan to shorten their stay due to air pollution. 13% intend to move to another city or province within China, and for 42% of Europeans, air pollution has no effect on their career and life plans.

The perspective of Europeans still living in Europe shows a different picture: over half (62%) of those surveyed who work and live in Europe can imagine themselves taking up temporary work in China. Because of the country's air contamination, however, about 23% of the Europeans surveyed cannot conceive of China as a potential place to work and live. Only a small percentage (15%) of the Europeans surveyed has no concerns in this regard.

Similarly, air pollution affects the Chinese surveyed who work and live in China. When asked whether their plans were influenced by air quality, 41% of them said that they planned to emigrate or to live in another country for some time. In the most polluted big cities, nearly 40% of those surveyed within China plan to move away. For the remaining 18% of the Chinese, air contamination in China has no influence on the future.

In response to the question of whether China would be a

potential future place of work and residence despite air pollution, 48% of the Chinese who are currently working and living in Europe answered yes, but only for temporary employment. Another 14% also said yes to living in China, adding that they had no concerns in this regard. A full 38% of those surveyed do not consider China to be a potential place of residence, finding the air contamination too dangerous.

Foreign companies in particular are noticing the general concern surrounding air contamination. These organizations are increasingly facing difficulties in filling job vacancies in China. Especially in cases where young children are involved, many parents are not willing to jeopardize their children's health for the sake of their career.

Mussenbrock & Wang GmbH:

Since its foundation in 2008 Mussenbrock & Wang has developed into the leading supplier of recruitment solutions in the European Chinese context. With the job portal SinoJobs and the recruiting event SinoJobs Career Days, we offer specialized solutions for the recruitment of Chinese and European professionals and managers in Greater China and the EU to European enterprises.

The Sino HR Conference – the German-Chinese Human Resources Conference – and special seminars on the subject of the German-Chinese HR management are offered to executives and human resource managers having a focus on China.

With the China Business Lunch we offer in addition a nationwide networking platform for German and Chinese professionals and managers.

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