

## Founding partners



### Chinese Academy of Sciences

- Chinese Academy of Science (CAS)

By 2010 CAS will have about 80 national institutes. The Academy's vision is to conduct research in basic and technological sciences; to undertake nationwide integrated surveys on natural resources and ecological environment, to provide scientific data and advice for governmental decision-making, and to undertake government-assigned projects with regard to key S&T problems in the process of social and economic development; to initiate personnel training; and to promote China's high-tech enterprises. [www.cas.ac.cn](http://www.cas.ac.cn)



### Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences Chinese Academy of Sciences

- Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences, CAS  
Currently there are 308 employees working in 8 research departments and laboratories. The main purposes of RCEES are to carry out national and international research projects in environmental sciences, systems ecology and environmental engineering. [www.rcees.ac.cn](http://www.rcees.ac.cn)



### UNIVERSITY OF OSLO

- University of Oslo, (UiO)

The University of Oslo is Norway's leading research university and largest teaching institution. Since its foundation in 1811, the University of Oslo has contributed widely to international research, notably through four Nobel prize winners and participation in international networks and consortia within a wide range of scientific disciplines. Today the University of Oslo has approximately 30 000 students at all levels and 5000 employees and it has achieved high international rankings. [www.uio.no](http://www.uio.no)



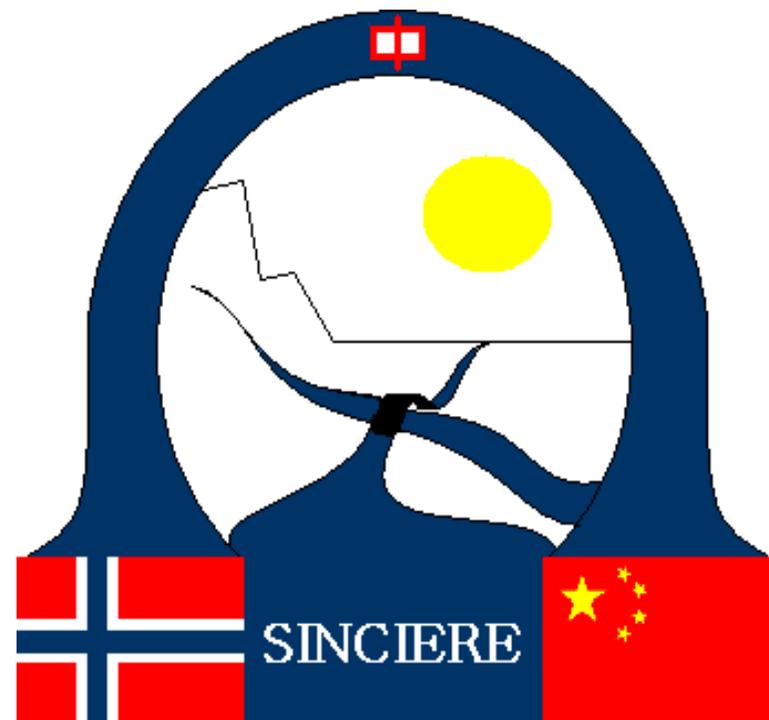
### FORSKNINGSSENTER FOR MILJØ OG SAMFUNN Oslo Centre for Interdisciplinary Environmental and Social Research

- Oslo Centre for Interdisciplinary Environmental and Social Research, (CIENS)

CIENS is a strategic research collaboration between independent research institutes and the University of Oslo. The centre is built on a shared scientific strategy and research program, co-operation on research and information projects, and the consolidation of about 500 researchers under a single roof in new offices incorporating state-of-art environmental technologies in the Oslo Innovation Centre. [www.ciens.no](http://www.ciens.no)

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# Sino-Norwegian Centre for Interdisciplinary Environmental Research



## Impetus

China faces a large number of environmental challenges, and there is an increasing demand for knowledge on how human activities affect the environment. Furthermore, the economic costs and welfare losses brought about by pollution and depletion of natural resources need to be assessed. To obtain this knowledge, studies of the ways pollution, climate change, and inadequate resource management affect the environment and humans are crucial. To enable decision makers to establish efficient abatement strategies, environmental change needs to be analyzed in the context of the social, political and economic setting of contemporary China.

## Research themes

Environmental concerns in China are linked to processes at the local, regional, and global scale. The Centre will engage in research that enhances the understanding of these processes, in terms of both their physical, chemical and biological characteristics and their economic, political, and social dimensions. The activities of the Centre will include research within the following fields:

1. Air pollution
2. Soil and water quality
3. Biodiversity and ecology
4. Impacts of Climate change
5. Environmental management:  
From science to policy

## Centre vision and goals

The overall aim of SINCIERE is to act as a catalyst and mediator for cooperation between China and Norway within the field of environmental research. The Centre also seeks to facilitate interdisciplinary and policy relevant research and serve as a node for a broad network of associated institutions.

Further the aim is to strengthen the institutional and scientific capacity in China to facilitate sustainable development. Special emphasis will be on conducting integrated assessments, taking into account the full range of factors of importance for the impact and mitigation of environmental stressors. The Centre has potential for developing novel approaches linking natural and social sciences within the field of environmental research in a Chinese context.

## Partners

The founding institutions are in a good position to fill their role in the Centre due to their comprehensive contacts and research networks and long experience in multidisciplinary research. The Norwegian institutions involved in the Centre have broad experience in conducting and leading international environmental projects as well as a long history of research cooperation with China. For the Chinese partners, the Centre constitutes a formalized forum for cooperation, which will also increase their access to international research funding. Workshops to develop joint proposals and to disseminate research results will be arranged by the Centre.