



Press release - CCIFC – January 2009

As early as 14th May 2008, the French Chamber of Commerce in China launched a relief fund in order to help the affected populations in Sichuan.

Facing this exceptional event and out of a voluntary act, numerous companies started organizing a donation to express their sympathy and pain towards the families hit by this disaster. All the Chinese and Foreign employees of the French companies in China, but also in the whole Asian region, joined to this effort out of solidarity. Today, 3, 067, 488.14 RMB have been raised by French Companies.

Monday 29th of December 2008, CCIFC welcomed in Beijing the CEDF (China Education Development Foundation) President and the Deputy General Secretary. A convention was signed between the two organisations. Thanks to the collected funds, CEDF engaged a primary school reconstruction in Dalijia, town of Majie, in Longnan municipality, Wudu district, Gansu Province. This school is situated in a particularly devastated area.

This donation underlines three important issues :

1. It reveals human solidarity in reaction to Chinese People and Chinese Nation's pain. French companies are welcomed in this country which is not only a market and a huge place of production and consumption, but can also be a victim from natural disasters.
2. It shows that the companies that made donations have integrated Social Responsibility in their general management, which is highly encouraged in this country and also in France.
3. It aims to a primary school reconstruction, after seism destruction. Our concern points out the particular issue of education and formation. The companies explain their choice with their preoccupation for the future and maybe contribute to form their future staff members and associates.

This ceremony went on CEDF President's words : « this donation is for disaster victims population like the proverb says :雪中送炭 xue zhong song tan : « It is in the winter that someone brings coal for the one who needs it ». Christmas celebration as just finished and it's almost new year, this donation appears like a christmas' or new year's gift. This signature ceremony is simply organised. When the construction works will be over, we will organise another ceremony, a great one, in front of the new building ».