

Lin Gao

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Social Entrepreneurship, Institutions and Social Innovation, Emerging Markets, System Change

EDUCATION

- 09/2020 – present **Hertie School, Berlin, Germany**
PhD Candidate, Doctoral Programme in Governance
- Dissertation (working title): Meeting Halfway – The Emergence of Social Entrepreneurship in China
 - Advisory Committee: [Prof. Johanna Mair, PhD](#) (Chair, Hertie School), [Prof. Christopher Marquis](#) (Cornell), [Dr. Meng Zhao](#) (NTU)
- 09/2011 – 06/2013 **University of Washington, Seattle, USA**
Master of Public Administration (graduate with honor)
- Award: The 1st international student being awarded “Daniel J. Evans Leadership” in the school’s history
- 09/2007 – 07/2011 **Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China**
Bachelor of Arts in Chinese Language and Literature

RECENT RESEARCH PROJECTS

- 03/2021 – 08/2021 **Research Assistant for Dr. Meng Zhao, Nanyang Technology University**
- Explored strategic research directions, conducted literature review, in-depth interviews, and data analysis on social enterprises in China.
- 07/2020 – 02/2021 **Researcher for the “Action Research” project, Ginkgo Foundation**
- Conducted case studies on social organizations’ participation in the fight against the COVID-19 outbreak in 2020 in China.
- 06/2020 – 03/2021 **Research Assistant for Prof. Rui (Juliet) Zhu, Cheung Kong Graduate School of Business**
- Conducted research and wrote the chronology on the global evolution of social innovation, supported EMBA course design on the same topic.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 12/2015 – 9/2021 **SEED for Social Innovation, Beijing, China**
Board Member; Senior Advisor; Director for SEED Lab
- Provided strategic, advisory, and managerial leadership.
- 06/2014 – 08/2020 **International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington DC, USA**
Senior Program Coordinator; Assistant to the Director General (DG)
- Supported the DG in a great variety of matters, ranging from high-level institutional relations to fundraising, and from the promotion of China program to managing the organization with 500+ global staff.
- 11/2013 – 05/2014 **Public Affairs Council, Washington DC, USA**
International Program Assistant
- Wrote briefings on global corporate affairs, designed newsletter content.
- 09/2010 – 01/2011 **China News Service, Beijing, China**
Intern Journalist
- Independently reported 60+ events, including 5+ exclusive interviews.

LANGUAGES

Mandarin Chinese (Native) – English (Fluent) – Cantonese (Intermediate) – German (Beginner)