FOUNDED 2010 · HONOLULU, HAWAII

Philanthropists from East and West, *acting together.*

EAST-WEST
PHILANTHROPY FORUM
東西方慈善論壇

East-West Philanthropy Forum

The East-West Philanthropy Forum is an international network of action-oriented philanthropists and their families, dedicated to partnerships that address today's most urgent social and environmental challenges.

ABOUT

About EWPF

The East-West Philanthropy Forum (EWPF) has convened international workshops, East-West Philanthropists Summits, sustainability summits, round table conferences, bilateral forums and other high-level exchanges for nearly two decades. It serves as a platform for cross-cultural exchange and collaboration among prominent philanthropists from East and West.

Its work has covered sustainability, conservation and climate change, public health, art and education, empowerment of women and youth, and family legacy. Driven by united actions and innovative ideas, EWPF has helped establish important joint philanthropy projects between the United States and China and internationally.

MISSION

Unite prominent philanthropists from East and West and lead them in addressing today's most pressing social and environmental challenges with innovative, high impact ideas and actions.

VISION

Serve as the leading global platform for cross-cultural exchange and collaboration among prominent, action-oriented philanthropists from East and West.

— East-West Philanthropists Summit III, Honolulu, Hawaii, 2016

HOW WE WORK

How we work

EWPF Summits are small by design. Their results come from putting the right people in the same room and following through afterwards.

→ Action, not only dialogue

Each gathering is organized to end in joint projects. Several of the partnerships listed below began as introductions at a summit.

→ Closed-door and by invitation

Summits are closed-door and invitation-only, with no press in the room, so participants can speak freely. A summary may be released afterwards.

→ Non-political

EWPF is a non-political, people-to-people platform. It complements dialogue between governments and does not take political positions.

→ Bilingual and cross-cultural

Meetings run with simultaneous translation throughout, so every participant follows the full conversation.

2027 SUMMIT

Sixth East-West Philanthropists Summit

Earlier Summits focused on sustainability, biodiversity, climate change, art and education, public health and empowering women and youth. The sixth summit turns to artificial intelligence: what philanthropy can contribute to its governance and safety, and how it can be used for good.

DATES	PLACE	THEME	FORMAT
January 3–5, 2027	Honolulu, Hawaii	AI governance and AI for good	About 60 participants, by invitation only

What the summit aims to do

1. Establish a regular mechanism for dialogue among philanthropists from China, the United States and other countries on AI governance and AI for good.
2. Identify pilot projects that philanthropists from East and West can fund and carry out together.
3. Where pilots succeed, share the experience so that successful models can be scaled up.

Participation is by invitation only. Inquiries: **info@ewpf.org**

IMPACT

Philanthropists in action

Projects and partnerships that EWPF inspired, initiated or incubated.

2014

China-US coastal wetland protection

After being introduced at the 2014 summit, Hank Paulson and Niu Gensheng formed a partnership between the Paulson Institute and the Lao Niu Foundation to protect China's coastal wetlands. It now includes three projects; the Lao Niu Foundation donated $1 million for the first year and continued funding in successive years.

2014

China-US national parks collaboration

Hank Paulson and Cao Dewang engaged the Paulson Institute and the Heren Foundation to explore a national park model that fits the Chinese context and meets international standards, with case studies in seven countries and pilot work around Wuyi Mountain in Fujian Province.

2015

China Global Philanthropy Institute

Ray Dalio pledged $2 million a year for five years to strengthen philanthropy in China through research and training. In November 2015 he, Bill Gates, Niu Gensheng, He Qiaonyu and Ye Qingjun announced the establishment of CGPI, which had trained more than 500 philanthropy professionals by the end of 2018.

2015

Richard Rockefeller Fellowship

In memory of early and enthusiastic EWPF participant Richard Rockefeller, Valerie Rockefeller Wayne and Niu Ben of the Lao Niu Brother & Sister Foundation launched a fellowship supporting capacity building, youth leadership and strategic philanthropy.

China-US children's museum collaboration

The Lao Niu Foundation and the Milken Family Foundation began sharing experience and resources so that Lao Niu Children's Museums in China meet international operating standards.

2017

Rural revitalization through art

Soichiro Fukutake donated US$1 million to establish the Fukutake Center for Art & Philanthropy at CGPI. Inspired by his example, philanthropist Dong Fangjun unveiled plans to revitalize Peach Flower Island through art, culture and nature.

Qiao United Action Plan

With EWPF's help, the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation and the Qiaonyu Foundation launched a plan to help developing countries strengthen action on climate change and nature conservation.

2018

Sister Rivers Partnership

Restore the Earth Foundation and the Changjiang Conservation Foundation signed a memorandum of understanding to pursue the ecological restoration of the Yangtze and Mississippi river basins.

2018

Global Climate Action Initiative

At the Global Climate Action Summit in San Francisco, philanthropists including Niu Gensheng and Dang Yanbao spoke collectively on a global stage for the first time, offering their support for the Paris Agreement.

2018

Public-private partnership on climate change

After study tours and meetings with EWPF, Dang Yanbao donated 200 million yuan to support the Global Climate Change and Green Development Fund at Tsinghua University.

2018

International Philanthropic Innovation Circle

EWPF and CGPI launched IPIC as the first international platform for China's young philanthropists, to support social entrepreneurship and exchange with young philanthropists around the world.

2019

China-Italy Philanthropy Forum

EWPF's first European expansion, established in Rome in March 2019 with the China Development Research Foundation, CGPI and TOChina Hub to advance philanthropic exchange between the two countries.

TIMELINE

Milestones

2010	US-China Strategic Philanthropy Partnership (CUSP) launched, Honolulu
2011	Annual CUSP Workshop I, Honolulu China-US Media & Philanthropy Leaders Workshop, Honolulu
2012	Annual CUSP Workshop II, Beijing China-US Social Venture Partners exchange workshop, Beijing
2013	China-US Corporate Leadership and CSR Workshop, Honolulu China-US Philanthropy Leaders Dialogue, Honolulu Annual CUSP Workshop III, Beijing
2014	East-West Philanthropists Summit I, Honolulu Annual CUSP Workshop IV, Beijing
2015	East-West Philanthropists Summit II, Honolulu Annual CUSP Workshop V, Shenzhen
2016	East-West Philanthropists Summit III, Honolulu East-West Sustainability Summit I, Honolulu Sustainability Leaders Awards Luncheon, Honolulu
2017	EWPF becomes independent non-profit, Honolulu Planning for “Rural Revitalization through Art”, Honolulu
2018	East-West Philanthropists Summit IV, Big Island, Hawaii East-West Sustainability Summit II, Ningxia Global Climate Action Summit, San Francisco IPIC launched
2019	China-Italy Philanthropy Forum, Rome China-India Young Entrepreneurs Summit, New Delhi China-Australia Philanthropy Round Table, Melbourne
2025	East-West Philanthropists Summit V, Honolulu
2027	East-West Philanthropists Summit VI, Honolulu

SUMMITS

Summits and forums

A record of EWPF's main gatherings.

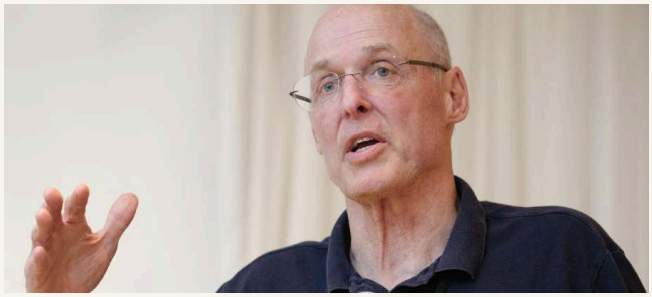
January 2014 Honolulu, Hawaii	**East-West Philanthropists Summit I** Organized by the East-West Center and the China Philanthropy Research Institute to bring leading philanthropists from China and the United States together on issues of common concern.
January 2015 Honolulu, Hawaii	**East-West Philanthropists Summit II** Focused on China and US foundation leaders. Co-sponsored by Cao Dewang and Marc Nathanson, with more than 50 participants representing 12 foundations from each country.
January 2016 Honolulu, Hawaii	**East-West Philanthropists Summit III** Held with CGPI and supported by the Beijing Qiaonyu Foundation. Discussions covered global philanthropy's mission in the 21st century, public-private partnerships and social finance innovation.
September 2016 Honolulu, Hawaii	**East-West Sustainability Summit I** Held in concert with the IUCN World Conservation Congress. 130 high-level participants discussed biodiversity, green finance, clean energy and sustainable business. Co-sponsored by the Lao Niu Foundation and the Beijing Qiaonyu Foundation.
January 2018 Big Island, Hawaii	**East-West Philanthropists Summit IV** “United Action for a Sustainable Planet.” Nearly 100 philanthropic leaders discussed marine conservation, climate change, sustainable cities, green finance and impact investing.
August 2018 Yinchuan, Ningxia	**East-West Sustainability Summit II** Sponsored by the Ningxia Yanbao Charity Foundation and CGPI. Government and nonprofit leaders from China, the US and other countries discussed climate change, poverty alleviation, education and medical care.
March 2019 Rome, Italy	**China-Italy Philanthropy Forum** Held at the Lincean National Academy of Sciences with more than 30 leaders from philanthropy, business, the arts and academia. The event marked the launch of the East-West Philanthropists Circle.
June 2019 Melbourne, Australia	**China-Australia Philanthropy Round Table** Co-organized with Philanthropy Australia and the Bridging Hope Foundation. Participants discussed climate and environment, philanthropy training, arts and culture, and medical and senior care.
January 2025 Honolulu, Hawaii	**East-West Philanthropists Summit V** The first post-Covid in-person East-West Philanthropists Summit was held on January 13–15, 2025 with the Gates Foundation, Peking University Education Foundation (US) and Give2Asia as strategic partners. Philanthropists and experts from the US, China, Japan and India discussed the importance of using philanthropy for innovation and international understanding. Issues included strengthening leadership, improving education and promoting science for good.

VOICES AT PAST SUMMITS

Since 2014 the summits have engaged leading philanthropists from both sides of the Pacific, including Michael Bloomberg, Hank Paulson, Richard Rockefeller, Ray Dalio and Michael Milken, alongside Niu Gensheng, He Qiaonyu, Cao Dewang, Dang Yanbao and Wu Jianmin.

— Michael Bloomberg addressing the East-West Philanthropists Summit

— Ray Dalio



— Henry M. Paulson, Jr.

— East-West Philanthropists Summit II, Honolulu, Hawaii, 2015

— East-West Sustainability Summit II, Ningxia, 2018

— China-Italy Philanthropy Forum, Rome, Italy, 2019

— China-Australia Philanthropy Round Table, Melbourne, Australia, 2019

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EWPF is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization registered in the United States. Every project launched by EWPF has been designed and funded by philanthropists from China and at least one other country, with foundations and individuals from America, Europe and Japan contributing the most.

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