

Munich, April 5, 2018
Press Release

Survey: Chinese consumers worried about plastic waste

Bianca Gruber
PR Manager
Tel. +49 89 949-21502
bianca.gruber@
messe-muenchen.de

83 percent of Chinese consumers are worried about the environment because of plastic waste. At the same time, 63 percent are convinced that avoiding waste is a task that concerns every consumer. However, just under one in three citizens is convinced that too much waste is produced in their own household. These are results of the "IFAT Environment Index 2018" of the world's leading trade fair for environmental technologies IFAT in Munich. On behalf of IFAT, 5,000 citizens in five countries were surveyed by a market research institute – including 1,001 people in China.

The Chinese government banned imports of plastic waste and 23 other recycled materials from abroad as of January 1 this year. Unlike paper and glass, plastic waste is not separated into individual material groups – the recycled material is of little value. The EU alone exported more than 80 percent of its plastic waste to China. The Chinese government has now set the goal of establishing a modern recycling economy and cannot make good use of imported plastic waste for this purpose.

"As the IFAT Environment Index shows, 85 percent of Chinese consumers are in favour of the government's goal of fully recycling waste in a closed-loop economy in future," says Stefan Rummel, Managing Director of Messe München. "83 percent of those surveyed also expressed great confidence in modern environmental technology, which makes waste recyclable so that it becomes a valuable raw material." Not even one in three Chinese consumers rate the environmental technology of their country as a successful industry today. In Germany and France by comparison, one in two consumers think their countries' environmental technology already is a successful industry today. 86 percent of Chinese consumers favour global cooperation when it comes to research and development of environmental technology. "The IFAT study is further proof that

Messe München GmbH
Messegelände
81823 München
Germany
messe-muenchen.de

Press Release | April 5, 2018 | 2/2

challenges in the field of sustainability and resource protection do not stop at national borders. They always have a global impact. That is why we also need solutions that are designed and implemented globally”, says Peter Kurth, President of the Federal Association of the German Waste, Water and Raw Materials Management Industry (BDE) in Berlin. “German and Chinese waste management companies have been successfully engaged in the expansion of the environmental service branch for years and present their competences, products and services at IE expo China in Shanghai in May and IFAT in Munich, also in May.”

More information on IFAT and IE expo China is available at www.ifat.de/en and www.ie-expo.com.

IFAT Environment Index 2018

In November 2017, IFAT – the World’s Leading Trade Fair for Water, Sewage, Waste and Raw Materials Management organized by Messe München – carried out an international survey of a representative sample of the population in 5 countries on the following topics: drinking water, waste, air, environmental city projects and environmental technologies. Germany (N=1,049), France (N=1,052), Great Britain (N=1,023), Italy (N=1,086) and China (N=1,001).

IFAT

IFAT is the world’s leading trade event for environmental technology. A total of 3,097 exhibitors from 59 countries, and 136,885 visitors from 168 countries took part in the last event. IFAT is held every two years; the next edition takes place from May 14 to 18, 2018 in Munich.

About IE expo China

IE expo China – presented by IFAT – is Asia’s Leading Trade Fair for Environmental Technology Solutions: Water, Waste, Air and Soil. The organizer of the event is Messe Muenchen Zhongmao Co., Ltd. – a joint venture between Messe München Shanghai Co. Ltd. and Shanghai ZM International Exhibition Co. Ltd. IE expo 2017 attracted 1,637 exhibitors from 31 countries and 55,000 visitors from 60 countries; the show occupied around 100,000 square meters of exhibition space. The next edition will be taking place at the Shanghai New International Expo Centre (SNIEC) from May 3 to 5, 2018. With IE expo Guangzhou there is now also a regional edition of the trade fair, focusing on the market in South China.

Messe München

Messe München is one of the leading exhibition organizers worldwide with more than 50 of its own trade shows for capital goods, consumer goods and new technologies. Every year, a total of over 50,000 exhibitors and around three million visitors take part in more than 200 events at the exhibition center in Munich, at the ICM – Internationales Congress Center München and the MOC Veranstaltungszentrum München as well as abroad. Together with its subsidiary companies, Messe München organizes trade shows in China, India, Brazil, Russia, Turkey, South Africa, Nigeria, Vietnam and Iran. With a network of associated companies in Europe, Asia, Africa and South America as well as around 70 representations abroad for over 100 countries, Messe München has a global presence.