



## **MoniQA FST – Food Safety and Mycotoxins in Grain, Oil and Feed**

**September 24-25, 2009 Fujian Hotel, Beijing, China**

### **A report by Rainer Svacinka, (RTD Services)**

End of September 2009, CCOA, the MoniQA Asian Pacific Scientific Coordinator and dissemination hub, invited trainers and trainees to a MoniQA Food Scientists Training on Mycotoxins in Beijing, China and gave a very warm welcome to all of them.

Trainees from various Chinese Food and Food Safety related institutions attended the meeting. They were presented with a diverse and international approach to this topic completed by a practical workshop in the frame of a perfectly organised event.

Speakers from the UK, China, Austria and New Zealand presented the topic in the respective national contexts as well as the EU relevant framework. They gave insights into the regional challenges and foci and underlined similarities and chances for collaborative work within the MoniQA Network as a perfect example of an already implemented partnership. Additionally to the food science speeches, an overview of the socioeconomic approach complemented the overall picture. The presented information was a direct output of the socioeconomic work carried out in the MoniQA project.

Speeches were alternately held in English and Chinese which gave the event a very specific touch.

R-biopharm provided the practical part of the FST. A general introduction to rapid mycotoxins detection methods was followed by a practical workshop which was enthusiastically attended by the trainees. The lesson learned from this workshop was that the provided testkits are really ubiquitously applicable, even in the conference room of a hotel next to nametags, workshop documents and cups of steaming tea.

Besides the very informative presentations, the organised social events offered an opportunity for networking and establishing new relationships.

I would like to thank all trainers and trainees for attending the event, r-biopharm for their excellent representatives and providing the testkits and last but not least our Chinese Partners CCOA for perfectly organising this event. We are all looking forward to the next events.

P.S.: I remember I passed a workshop on Communication recently at Boku held by Siân Astley from IFR talking about non-verbal communication. Let's put it that way: for me this is now applied knowledge after Beijing. Another experience I can add.