

From: [Mary Gordon](#)
To: ["BALLANTINE, Colin \(NAD\)"](#)
Bcc: [Gemma Carruthers](#); [Robert Muir](#)
Subject: RE: Ease of Doing Business - China cooperation
Date: Tuesday, 10 September 2019 3:51:00 p.m.
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.jpg](#)
[image005.jpg](#)

Kia ora Colin

Yes, good to be in touch. In relation to understanding the context of the "Ease of Doing Property" indicator, I think a meeting would work and I'm happy to catch up. Please liaise with Gemma Carruthers s 9(2)(a) for a time/place that suits.

In terms of the broader question of bringing LINZ into the "Ease of Doing Business" cooperation with China and the conference, I'll touch base with Robbie Muir, the Registrar-General of Land, and get back to you.

Nga mihi

Mary Gordon
Deputy Registrar-General of Land
Strategy & Stewardship

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From: BALLANTINE, Colin (NAD) [mailto:Colin.Ballantine@mfat.govt.nz]
Sent: Tuesday, 10 September 2019 3:23 p.m.
To: Natalie Mason; Mary Gordon
Subject: RE: Ease of Doing Business - China cooperation

Thanks Natalie.

Mary – it's great to be in contact with you.

As per my email to Natalie, we are looking at possibly bringing LINZ into our 'Ease of Doing Business' cooperation with China. This is a strategic initiative MFAT started a few months ago, and has good support here at MFAT for supporting our China relationship.

There is scope for a senior LINZ official to possibly present at a World Bank conference in Beijing on 22 November, which the World Bank President and Chinese Premier Li Keqiang are likely to attend. We are aiming for the Registrar of the Companies Office to attend too.

Is this something you would be interested in? Let me know, and we could arrange a short meeting to discuss.

Happy to answer any questions you may have.

Kind regards
Colin

Colin Ballantine

Policy Officer
North Asia Division
New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade | Manatu Aorere

Tel: [s 9(2)(a)] E colin.ballantine@mfat.govt.nz

From: Natalie Mason [<mailto:nmason@linz.govt.nz>]
Sent: Tuesday, 10 September 2019 2:55 PM
To: BALLANTINE, Colin (NAD)
Cc: Mary Gordon
Subject: RE: Ease of Doing Business - China cooperation

Hi Colin

Your contact for this work will be:

Mary Gordon
Deputy Registrar General of Land
DDI: 04 471 6854
Email: mgordon@linz.govt.nz

Cheers
Natalie

From: BALLANTINE, Colin (NAD) [<mailto:Colin.Ballantine@mfat.govt.nz>]
Sent: Tuesday, 10 September 2019 11:46 a.m.
To: Natalie Mason
Subject: Ease of Doing Business - China cooperation

Hi Natalie

We've done a bit of digging here and believe LINZ is the key agency for the World Bank's 'Registering Property' indicator in New Zealand (examining the steps, time and cost involved in registering property) – as per the attached World Bank PDF:

What is the institution in charge of immovable property registration?	Land Information
Institution in charge of the plans showing legal boundaries in the largest business city:	Land Information New Zealand

2 Register title through Land Information New Zealand

Agency: Land Information New Zealand

The Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) platform is an online property registration system. Confirmation is usually returned online within minutes. LINZ currently operates a dual system:

- An online land title registration system.
- A paper based registration system (via LINZ processing centers).

It is possible to register manually through one of the Land Titles Offices. In this case, it would take 10 working days and cost NZD 176 (plus NZD 20 counter fee per instrument). Conveyancers and/or lawyer's fees, if used, would be approximately NZD 1,500. There is a cost to the vendor, which involves selling a property through a real estate agent, which would cost up to 4% of the purchase price. A person could privately advertise the sale of their property. The lawyer/conveyancer is required to certify that documents are correct and in order for registration. The documentation shall include:

Less than one day,
online

NZD 1,500; (NZD 80 registration fee per transfer (for online registration) plus NZD 1,500 for conveyancer fee.)

New Zealand is ranked first globally for 'Registering Property', and first overall in the Ease of Doing Business rankings.

We are looking to send some officials up to Beijing for a World Bank conference on 22 November, to present to Chinese officials – and possibly the Chinese Premier – on our performance in the Ease of Doing Business rankings. 'Registering Property' is one topic we want to speak to, among others including 'Starting a Business', 'Getting Credit', and others. MFAT sees this workstream – advising China on its Ease of Doing Business performance – as a very good initiative to support our bilateral relationship, and there is strong support here for it, as well as from other agencies like the Companies Office and the Intellectual Property Office.

I wonder if you could put me in touch with someone at LINZ who I could provide a bit more background about this workstream to, and to speak to about possibly bringing LINZ into this workstream? I am happy to come to your offices whenever suits.

Kind regards
Colin

Colin Ballantine

Policy Officer
North Asia Division
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T + [s 9(2)(a)] E colin.ballantine@mfat.govt.nz

From: Natalie Mason [<mailto:nmason@linz.govt.nz>]

Sent: Monday, 2 September 2019 3:54 PM

To: BALLANTINE, Colin (NAD)

Subject: RE: Chinese delegation in October

Hi Colin

I've forwarded this query onto our Registrar General of Lands team and someone from the team will be in touch directly with you.

Cheers
Natalie

From: BALLANTINE, Colin (NAD) [<mailto:Colin.Ballantine@mfat.govt.nz>]

Sent: Friday, 30 August 2019 1:48 p.m.

To: Natalie Mason

Subject: RE: Chinese delegation in October

Hi Natalie

Thanks for your email the other day regarding the Chinese delegation – I am still following up internally, and will get back to you shortly.

In the meantime, I wanted to ask – does LINZ have responsibility for registering property in New Zealand? We are cooperating with China on helping China to improve its World Bank Ease of Doing Business indicators, and I am trying to map out which agency has responsibility for which indicator, to inform possible future cooperation.

Broadly, this is what the 'Registering Property' indicator is about:

This topic examines the steps, time and cost involved in registering property, assuming a standardized case of an entrepreneur who wants to purchase land and a building that is already registered and free of title dispute. In addition, the topic measures the quality of the land administration system in each economy. The quality of land administration index has five dimensions: reliability of infrastructure, transparency of information, geographic coverage, land dispute resolution, and equal access to property rights.

I note you say that LINZ manages the Survey & Title system which guarantees property rights to owners, which I presume aligns broadly with the above?

Kind regards
Colin

From: BALLANTINE, Colin (NAD)
Sent: Wednesday, 28 August 2019 9:10 AM
To: 'Natalie Mason'
Subject: RE: Chinese delegation In October

Thanks Natalie – let me have a few conversations here and get back to you.

From: Natalie Mason [<mailto:nmason@linz.govt.nz>]
Sent: Tuesday, 27 August 2019 4:49 PM
To: BALLANTINE, Colin (NAD)
Subject: RE: Chinese delegation In October

Hi Colin

Following on from the meeting I've had with my colleagues across LINZ, there are a couple of the topics that LINZ can present on from a Crown property and Survey & Titles system perspective (see table below) however we believe that other agencies would be better placed to host the delegation with input from LINZ if required.

Please advise the best way forward - I have not gone back to Liu Li.

Topic	Comment
How New Zealand use land, buying or selling property, or managing public land – ie, Landbank	LINZ has a role in acquiring, disposing of, and managing some Crown land. We also manage the Survey & Title system which guarantees property rights to owners. The Overseas Investment Office manages the process of

	foreign investment in sensitive assets.
Investigate the operation mode of the Crown Forestry Rental Trust	LINZ administers some forestry land on behalf of the Crown, safeguarding it for use in Treaty of Waitangi settlements. We administer the licences the Crown has granted to forestry companies to grow trees on the land. The rents from these licences are transferred to the Crown Forestry Rental Trust, which holds and invests these proceeds on behalf of future successful Treaty of Waitangi claimants.
Understand the management of fresh water resources in New Zealand: Understand the easement application process	We manage easement applications in relation to Crown Land. However from a broader perspective, we believe the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) and/or the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) would be better placed to address this.
Understand the mining permits application process	New Zealand Petroleum & Minerals (part of the Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE)) manage this process.
How to manage the tensions between urban growth and loss of productive soils	We believe the Ministry for Primary Industry (MPI) and/or MfE would be better placed to address this.
Legal policies for the protection and rational use of natural resources. e.g. sustainable development and ecological protection, Agricultural land use and protection, Utilization and protection of nature reserves, and ecological environmental protection compensation policy.	We believe EPA and/or MfE and/or Department of Conservation (DoC) (in relation to nature reserves) would be better placed to address this.
How sustainable development and ecological protection are reflected and implemented ?	We believe EPA and/or MfE and/or Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) would be better placed to address this.
Agricultural land use and protection.	We believe the Ministry for Primary Industry (MPI) and/or MfE would be better placed to address this.
Utilization and protection of nature reserves.	We believe DoC would be better placed to address this.
Ecological environmental protection compensation policy	We believe EPA might be better placed to address this.
The establishment and price of natural resource markets and the role of government in the land market.	We believe MBIE might be better placed to address this.

Cheers
Natalie

Natalie Mason
Business Manager
Location Information

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From: BALLANTINE, Colin (NAD) [<mailto:Colin.Ballantine@mfat.govt.nz>]

Sent: Wednesday, 21 August 2019 12:24 p.m.

To: Natalie Mason

Subject: RE: Chinese delegation in October

Thanks Natalie.

From: Natalie Mason [<mailto:nmason@linz.govt.nz>]

Sent: Wednesday, 21 August 2019 9:16 AM

To: BALLANTINE, Colin (NAD)

Subject: RE: Chinese delegation in October

Hi Colin

I've set up an internal meeting here at LINZ on Tuesday afternoon to discuss these topics, however just a heads-up that a number of the topics look like they're more about land use than land information – so these might actually sit with another agency. If this is the case, I will advise.

Cheers

Natalie

From: BALLANTINE, Colin (NAD) [<mailto:Colin.Ballantine@mfat.govt.nz>]

Sent: Tuesday, 20 August 2019 3:15 p.m.

To: Natalie Mason

Subject: RE: Chinese delegation in October

Hi Natalie

In terms of what they want to talk about, I believe it's:

1. How New Zealand use land, buying or selling property, or managing public land. For example, Investigate and understand the operation of New Zealand land bank; Investigate the operation mode of the Crown Forestry Rental Trust.
Land using, trading, and managing. Operation of New Zealand land bank and the Crown Forestry Rental Trust.
Understand the management of fresh water resources in New Zealand.
Understand the easement application process.
Understand the mining permits application process.

2. Management of fresh water resources in New Zealand, the easement application process, and the mining permits application process.

3. How to manage the tensions between urban growth and loss of productive soils.

4. Contradiction between urban growth and loss of productive soil.

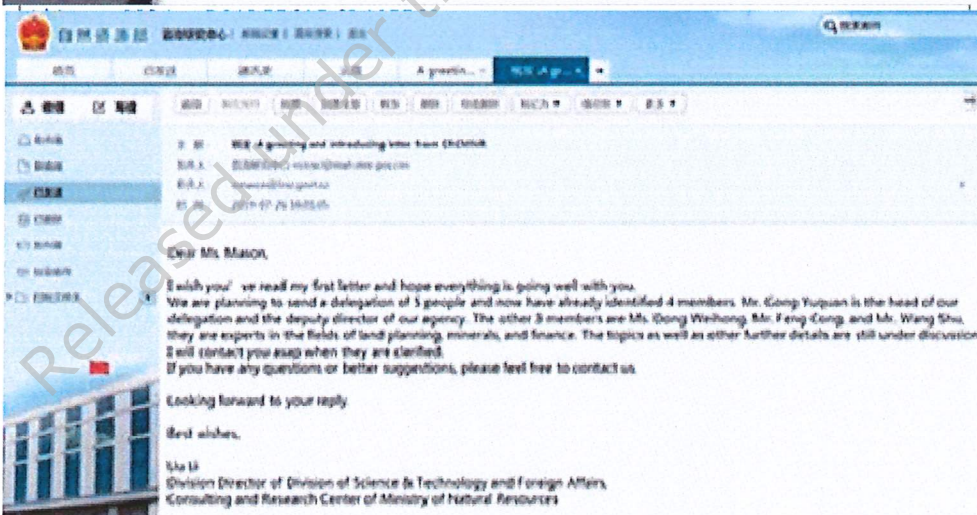
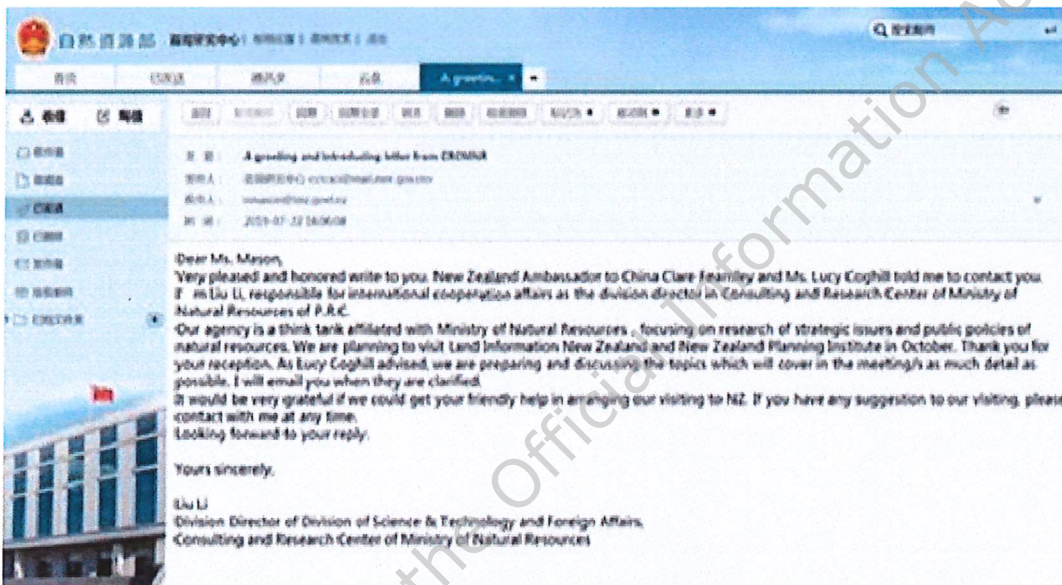
5. Legal policies for the protection and rational use of natural resources. e.g. sustainable development and ecological protection, Agricultural land use and protection, Utilization and protection of nature reserves, and ecological environmental protection compensation policy. How sustainable development and ecological protection are reflected and implemented? Agricultural land use and protection.

Utilization and protection of nature reserves.

Ecological environmental protection compensation policy

6. The establishment and price of natural resource markets and the role of government in the land market.

Here are the emails they sent to you:



The person to contact is Liu Li:

Liu Li 刘丽

Division Director, Researcher

Department of Science and Technology & Foreign Affairs

Mob: [s 9(2)(a)]

Email: [s 9(2)(a)]

Add: [s 9(2)(a)]

Kind regards
Colin

From: Natalie Mason [<mailto:nmason@linz.govt.nz>]
Sent: Tuesday, 20 August 2019 3:12 PM
To: BALLANTINE, Colin (NAD)
Subject: RE: Chinese delegation in October

Hi Colin

Sure – they can call. Also, can you let me know what their email address is and I can talk to our IT team to make sure their email addresses get through our firewall...?

Cheers
Natalie

From: BALLANTINE, Colin (NAD) [<mailto:Colin.Ballantine@mfat.govt.nz>]
Sent: Tuesday, 20 August 2019 3:09 p.m.
To: Natalie Mason
Subject: RE: Chinese delegation in October

Hi Natalie

Thanks for your reply – it seems there must be some technical issue getting emails from a Chinese email account to your email account.

Are you fine for me to pass your phone numbers to the Chinese, for them to get in contact with you that way?

Kind regards
Colin

From: Natalie Mason [<mailto:nmason@linz.govt.nz>]
Sent: Tuesday, 20 August 2019 3:04 PM
To: BALLANTINE, Colin (NAD)
Subject: RE: Chinese delegation in October

Sorry, here are my contact details...

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From: BALLANTINE, Colin (NAD) [<mailto:Colin.Ballantine@mfat.govt.nz>]
Sent: Tuesday, 20 August 2019 12:13 p.m.
To: Natalie Mason
Subject: Chinese delegation in October

Hi Natalie

I just wanted to touch base and see whether LINZ is still open to meeting with a Chinese Ministry of Natural Resources delegation in October, when they visit New Zealand? I understand they have been trying to reach you, but are yet to get a response.

I completely appreciate that something else might have come up. Either way, could you please let me know whether LINZ still intends to meet the delegation, so that I can go back to the Chinese with an appropriate holding reply, or telling them you are too busy?

If any issues, feel free to give me a call.

Kind regards
Colin

Colin Ballantine

Policy Officer
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