

**Research Design Workshop on “Informality, Poverty and
Growth: Labor Markets in China and India”**

Harvard University

April 2-3, 2007

**Subsector, Value Chain and
Occupational Case Studies:
Past Studies and Lessons Learned**

Yuan Ren

A Quick Glimpse of Related Work have Done within the Group

	Researches Have Been Done/ Ongoing	Main methodologies
REN, Yuan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Health Care Workers - Migrants - Pearl sector - Community-based employment - Self-employment and Self-entrepreneurship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Value Chain Analysis -Sub-Sector Analysis - Focus Group Discussions - Life Histories - Archival Research - Participant Observation - In-depth interviews - Event history analysis - Life History Analysis - Sample Surveys
RATNA, Sudarshan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - home-based workers in multiple sectors - traditional herb sector - ICT 	
SINHA, Shalini	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - garments - street vendors 	
YAO, Yu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - traditional herbal medicine 	
WANG, Jufen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - nursing - domestic workers 	

A Labor Market Institution: For Informal Health Care Workers, Shanghai

- Workers face difficulties in finding jobs through informal channels
- Labor agencies provide following services to health care workers:
 - Job placement
 - Contract negotiations
 - Training and re-training
 - Dispute resolution
 - Access to social protection
 - Protection of rights
- Labor agencies provide following services to other stakeholders:
 - Control of health care in hospitals
 - Standards for health care services
 - Communication between hospitals/retirement homes
- Policy recommendation: encourage development of such labor agencies

Pearl Industry, China: Use of Value Chain Analysis (2005-)

- Different features of informal workers (proportions, population structure, male and female, and other demographic profiles) along the value chain.
- Different working conditions, income and social protection along the value chain
- Interim findings:
 - informal employment has great contributions to local economic growth.
 - local networks and institutions have influence on local industrial cluster and on informal employment.
 - lessons for upgrading the local cluster, improving income. and providing social protection for informal workers