Strategic Capacity Building for the CSD Professions in China

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2012 CAPCSD Conference
Newport Beach, CA
Influential factors to consider

1. The population
2. Health care
3. Poverty
1. The population

- The world's most populous country
- 1,336,718,015 as of mid-2011
- Compared with the US
  - 311,591,917 - United States - Jul 2011
- 20% of the world's population
- One child policy
What Is the One-Child Family Policy?

- More complex than a simple 1 child/family
  - Urban families are typically allowed 1 child
  - first child is handicapped
  - if both parents are “only children” themselves
  - if the first child in a rural family is a girl
  - some national minorities are allowed more than one child/family to increase/maintain their population size
  - siblings must be born at least four years apart.
2. Health care

- Healthcare was universal but limited
- In the 1980’s Deng Xiaoping dismantled state-owned enterprises and rural collectives
- Affected state run health care system, old-age pensions, and education (where SLPs function)
- Now is inexpensive but often private pay
3. Poverty

- Approximately 200 million Chinese people live on less than US$1.25/day
- 482 million people live on less than US$2/day
- Poverty reduction is slowing down and a gap between the rich and the poor is opening up
- Rural-urban divide is the “new Great Wall”
As a result...

- SLP not considered a significant clinical area
- “not a big deal”
- Not about life and death
- Medical resources lacking
- “So many patients”
- ENT physicians often see 100 patients/day
“Informal” Speech-Language Therapy

- Ind. with experience provides limited services
- Often limited to instructions for family members
- Companies that train individuals on products
- An individual is designated
  - Take courses
  - Attend conferences