Fact Sheet for Southwest China

- **Southwest China** is made up of the provinces of Sichuan, Yunnan and Guizhou and the municipality of Chongqing, with a total of over 190 million population in an area as big as Western Europe.

- **Southwest China’s combined nominal GDP in 2015** was US$ 1.1 trillion, making the 4 provincial economies equivalent to the then 14th largest economy in the world.

- Two of the new seven Free Trade Zones announced in August 2016 were in Chongqing and Sichuan, opening more business opportunities for British companies.

- 80% of China’s shale gas is produced in Chongqing (2015). SW China is piloting the opening up of the world’s largest electricity market (worth approx £300 billion a year). The pilot markets in Chongqing, Guizhou and Yunnan are worth £20 billion a year.

- One in three of all laptops and one in eight of all cars in the world are made in Chongqing. 70% of all iPads and 50% of CPUs in the world are made in Chengdu.

- China’s first National Big Data Comprehensive Pilot Zone was established in Guizhou in February 2016 and the first national crowdfunding centre is also in Guizhou.

- **Chengdu** is China’s fourth largest aviation hub in mainland China. Chengdu Shuangliu International Airport is among the world’s top 40 busiest airports in terms of passenger traffic and currently handles approx 2m more passengers than Gatwick.

- **Chongqing Cuntan International Container Terminal** is the largest inland shipping terminal in China. More than 80% of China’s rail cargo to Europe travels from rail hubs in Chongqing and Chengdu.

- **The West China Hospital Chengdu** is China’s largest hospital with over 7000 beds and 5 million outpatients and 225,000 inpatients (2015).
HEALTHCARE SECTOR HIGHLIGHTS

SW China is undergoing healthcare reform to cope with its rapidly rising elderly population and demand for better services from its middle class. In 2015 those aged over 65s was almost 7% of SW China’s population (almost 33 million people) and will be near to 20% by 2020 (in Sichuan the elderly population is already near 20%). Chongqing and Chengdu are seeing waves of private investment from domestic and foreign investors: in 2015 Chongqing had 275 private elderly facilities totalling 38,000 beds while Sichuan will add another 150,000 elderly care beds from the private sector by 2017. Guizhou is strong in Traditional Chinese Medicine. There are also a large number of Chinese pharmaceutical companies looking to invest and diversify into the full supply chain of the healthcare and life sciences industries in the UK.

Yunnan has potential to become a pan-Southeast-Asia hub for quality medical services for its geographic location and policy strategies, providing opportunities for British healthcare companies to export their expertise.

Opportunities

Training: 3-month observership, hospital management courses, carer and nursing, GP training, etc

Hospital Build: design and plan, engineering, hard/soft-ware, clinical services and operation management

Digital: EPR, hospital management software, wearable and tele-health, innovative technology for primary and community care setting.

Elderly: design and plan of care home, domiciliary care solution, operation and management, etc

Examples

Heythorp operates health management facility expanding into 200 beds care home business within a high-end comprehensive leisure development area in Kunming by CITIC.

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THE BRITISH CONSULATE-GENERAL CHONGQING

The consulate opened on 1 March 2000.

It represents the UK across Southwest China. It does this through collaboration with local partners to achieve their shared outcomes of sustainable growth through transition to a low carbon economy, promotion of UK research and technology, the pursuit of commercial opportunities for UK businesses in priority sectors and Chinese investment to the UK.

Department of International Trade team working within the consulate focus on the priority business sectors of Automotive & Aerospace, Advanced Manufacturing & Transport, Construction, Environment and Infrastructure, Consumer, Creative and Education, Energy (Oil & Gas, Renewable, Nuclear), Information and Communication Technology and Life Science, Health and Social Care, but also seek out emerging opportunities for UK companies.