L'OREAL CHINA STRATEGY PROPASAL

MARKET SEGMENTATION

Market Size:

- Total Market Value: €18 billion as of 2010.
- Skincare accounts for 70-80% of the cosmetics market, with color cosmetics only representing 10-15%.
- Perfumes remain a tiny niche, largely used as gifts.
- Color Cosmetics & Perfumes: Smaller share at 10-15%, primarily used for special occasions or gifts.
- Men's Skincare: Rapidly emerging, accounting for 70% of L'Oréal Men Expert's global sales.

· Segment Breakdown:

- Young, Urban Women (20s-30s): Major drivers of growth; increasingly interested in premium skincare, contributing to a 10-12% annual growth rate in the premium segment.
- Older Consumers: Less interested in cosmetics, focusing more on skincare basics.
- Men's Market: Increasing but secondary to women's skincare.

Growth of Premium Products:

Disposable income increases leading to demand for premium brands. Urban women in Tier 1 cities drive demand for sophisticated products with heritage value.



RECOMMENDED TARGET SEGMENT

- Target Segment: Young, Urban Chinese Women (20s-30s)
 - Demographic Overview:
 - Located in **Tier 1 cities** (e.g., Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen).
 - Highly influenced by social media trends and premium brand appeal.
 - Average annual income: €15,000-20,000, with discretionary spending focused on beauty and lifestyle products.
 - Skincare Focus:
 - The **skincare segment** is expected to grow at a **10-12% CAGR** over the next few years, driven by urban women's concerns over skin health, anti-aging, and pollution.
 - Average spending on skincare per year: €500-800, significantly higher in Tier 1 cities.
 - Assumed Revenue Impact:
 - Targeting this segment can increase Yue Sai's sales from €35 million to €45-50 million within 3 years.
 - This assumes capturing 5-7% market share in Tier 1 cities, primarily through premium skincare lines.
 - Growth rate in the premium skincare sector is estimated at 10% annually, meaning potential for €10-15 million additional revenue.
 - Assumptions:
 - Investment in social media marketing and retail partnerships to increase brand visibility.
 - Expanded presence in premium retail outlets (e.g., Sephora) and online platforms.
 - Brand loyalty building through consistent messaging around premium, local skincare solutions.

VALUE PROPOSITION

Product Differentiation:

- Incorporating Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) ingredients like Ganoderma mushroom and ginseng, which are well-known and trusted by Chinese consumers for their health benefits.
- Position products as both a **skincare solution** and a **cultural connection** to Chinese heritage, appealing to consumers' desire for authentic, local brands.

Market Need:

- Urban consumers face **pollution-related skin issues**, increasing demand for products with **natural ingredients** that detoxify and protect the skin.
- TCM-based skincare offers a **holistic approach** that is both effective and culturally resonant.

Financial Assumptions:

- Marketing Spend: Doubling marketing efforts from €2 million to €4 million annually, with focus on social media platforms (Weibo) and influencers.
- Projected Sales: Assuming a 10% increase in repeat customers due to the uniqueness of TCM-based products, leading to a €10-15 million revenue uplift in 3 years.
- **Pricing Strategy**: Positioned above mass-market brands like L'Oréal Paris, but priced slightly below international luxury competitors (Lancôme, Estée Lauder). Targeted pricing could range from €50-100 per product, appealing to premium buyers.

Challenges:

- High Competition: The skincare market is already crowded with international luxury brands.
- **Brand Perception Shift**: Moving from mass-market positioning to a luxury TCM-driven brand will require substantial marketing to ensure consumers recognize the shift in value.