



BRI GREEN REVIEW

Secretariat of BRI International Green Development Coalition



BRIGC Thematic Partnership of "Maritime Community with a Shared Future and Marine Governance" Launched in Oslo, Norway

GREEN SILK ROAD NEWS

- Xi Holds Talks with Macron: Pledging for Enhanced China-France Ties to Jointly Promote the Green Development of the Belt and Road.
- Chinese President Xi Jinping Delivered A Keynote Speech at the Opening Ceremony of the Second China International Import Expo, Proposing Joint Efforts for the High-quality Development of the Belt and Road.
- Xi Sends Congratulatory Letter to the 1st Sustainable Development Forum, Proposing In-depth Connection between BRI and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- Chinese Premier Li Keqiang Attended the 22nd China-ASEAN (10+1) Leaders' Meeting, Highlighting the Alignment of BRI and the Development Strategies of ASEAN and Member Countries.
- Inception Meeting for CCICED Special Policy Study on Green Belt and Road Initiative and 2030 SDGs & Policy Dialogue on Hotspot Issues Held in Beijing.

COALITION UPDATES

- BRIGC Thematic Partnership of "Maritime Community with a Shared Future and Marine Governance" Launched in Oslo, Norway.
- High-level Dialogue on the Role of Ocean in Addressing Climate Change Was Held in Beijing.
- The Belt and Road International Forum on Connectivity for China Ecological Civilization Forum Was Held in Shiyan, Hubei.
- The Seminar on Green BRI Pilot Projects with Enterprises Was Held in Beijing.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- BRIGC Advisory Committee Meeting and Thematic Partnerships Coordination Meeting Will Be Held in Shenzhen.
- Joint Study of Green Development Guidance on BRI Projects Will Be Initiated in Beijing.

THEMATIC PROGRESS

- Progress of thematic partnership of Environmental Laws, Regulations and Standards.

VIEWS AND RESEARCH PROGRESS

- The Report of *Harmonizing Investment and Financing Standards towards Sustainable Development along the Belt and Road* Was Released.

Xi Holds Talks with Macron: Pledging for Enhanced China-France Ties to Jointly Promote the Green Development of the Belt and Road

On November 6, 2019, Chinese President Xi Jinping held talks with French President Emmanuel Macron at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. Xi underscored that China is willing to work along with France in promoting the alignment of BRI with EU's Euro-Asian connectivity strategy with focuses on 6 major goals, enhance comprehensive and in-depth development of bilateral exchange and cooperation and deliver more pragmatic and concrete outcomes. Macron noted that France is ready to advance the alignment of the BRI with the EU's Euro-Asian connectivity strategy and jointly promote green development of the Belt and Road.

(Source: XINHUANET)

Chinese President Xi Jinping Delivered A Keynote Speech at the Opening Ceremony of the Second China International Import Expo, Proposing Joint Efforts for the High-quality Development of the Belt and Road

On November 5, 2019, the Second China International Import Expo opened at National Exhibition and Convention Center in Shanghai. Chinese President Xi Jinping delivered the keynote speech of "Openness and Cooperation for a Shared Future" at the opening ceremony, highlighting that the world economies must have a more open mindset, take more open steps and work together to build an open world economy through cooperation, with innovation and for mutual benefits. He reiterated that China will open its door only wider to the world. China will stay committed to opening-up to promote reform, development and innovation. This will bring about opening-up at an even higher level. China will follow the principle of extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits, the philosophy of open, green, and clean cooperation, and a high-standard, people-centered, and sustainable approach to promote high-quality Belt and Road cooperation.

(Source: XINHUANET)

Xi Sends Congratulatory Letter to the 1st Sustainable Development Forum, Proposing In-depth Connection between BRI and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

On October 24, 2019, the First Sustainable Development Forum opened in Beijing. Chinese President Xi Jinping sent a congratulatory letter. Xi noted in the letter that China has adopted the vision of innovative, coordinated, green, and open development that is for everyone, boosted its economy for high-quality development and fully implemented the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Meanwhile, China has also made vigorous efforts to advance South-South cooperation, align the Belt and Road Initiative with the 2030 Agenda and contribute energetically to the worldwide achievements of the sustainable development goals. China hopes all relevant parties can actively explore sound solutions to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, pursue common development and jointly build the world into a community of a shared future for humanity, he said.

(Source: XINHUANET)

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang Attended the 22nd China-ASEAN (10+1) Leaders' Meeting, Highlighting the Alignment of BRI and the Development Strategies of ASEAN and Member Countries

On the morning of November 3, 2019 at local time, Li Keqiang, Premier of State Council attended the 22nd China-ASEAN (10+1) Leaders' Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand. Stressing that China will unswervingly pursue the path of peaceful development and an opening-up strategy of mutual benefit, Li said China is willing to synergize the Belt and Road Initiative with the development strategies of ASEAN as a whole and its members as well. He urged to accelerate the construction of the existing economic corridors, promote infrastructure connectivity cooperation, as well as support the building of East ASEAN Growth Area. Li encouraged innovation cooperation in the areas including digital economy, artificial intelligence, big data and cyber security, and the establishment of a China-ASEAN partnership on blue economy to enhance maritime exchanges and cooperation, especially on the conservation of marine ecosystem, ocean industries, clean and renewable energies and technologies on water conservancy.

(Source: XINHUANET)

Inception Meeting for CCICED Special Policy Study on Green Belt and Road Initiative and 2030 SDGs & Policy Dialogue on Hotspot Issues Held in Beijing

On October 28, 2019, CCICED Inception Meeting for Special Policy Study on Green Belt and Road Initiative and 2030 SDGs & Policy Dialogue on Hotspot Issues was held in Beijing. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Li Yonghong, CCICED Assistant Secretary-General, Deputy Director General of Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center, Ministry of Ecology and Environment. Mr. Scott Vaughan, International Chief Advisor of CCICED, delivered an opening remark, and the SPS Chinese Team Leaders, Ms. Zhou Guomei, Executive Director General of Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center, MEE, and Mr. Shi Yulong, Director General of China Center for Urban Development delivered keynote speeches. SPS International Team Leader Mr. Kevin P. Gallagher, Director of Global Development Policy Center, Boston University, joined the meeting via video call. About 70 delegates participated in the meeting, including experts from home and abroad, CCICED partners, and Secretariat staff.

The meeting launched the SPS on Green Belt and Road Initiative and 2030 SDGs, where experts had intensive discussions on the research scope, key issues, working priorities and expected outcomes, and reached consensus on the research framework and implementation plan. The Chinese Team Leaders shared thoughts on the research and made requirements for the form of outputs.

This SPS will take an integrated approach to analyze the synergies between green BRI and 2030 SDGs, with a special focus on biodiversity conservation which is also the Sustainable Development Goal 15 and has attracted worldwide attention. With sharing ecological redlining experience as an entry point, this SPS will review the current status and challenges for BRI participating countries and identify financing mechanisms conducive to biodiversity conservation, so as to provide policy recommendations for post 2020 biodiversity governance and 2030 SDGs implementation.

(Source: China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development)

BRIGC Thematic Partnership of “Maritime Community with a Shared Future and Marine Governance” Launched in Oslo, Norway

On October 23, 2019, during the Our Ocean 2019, the BRI International Green Development Coalition (BRIGC) held a side event named Greening the Blue Road: Promoting Marine Environment Governance in the Belt and Road Initiative in Oslo, Norway. More than 60 participants from different organizations and institutions gathered together to exchange and share opinions on the governance of marine ecological environment and green Belt & Road Initiative. A new thematic partnership of “Maritime Community with a Shared Future and Marine Governance” under BRIGC was officially launched in the meeting.

The side event was chaired by Mr. Vidar Helgesen, BRIGC Co-Chair, CCICED Vice Chairperson, and Norway’s Special Envoy for the Ocean, Former Minister of Ministry of Climate and Environment of Norway, Mr. Marco Lambertini, BRIGC Co-Chair, CCICED Member, and Director General of WWF International, Mr. Eric Solheim, Convener of the Advisory Committee of BRIGC, CCICED Vice Chairperson, and Senior Advisor of WRI, Ms. Antha Williams, Member of the Advisory Committee of BRIGC and Global Head of Environmental Programs of Bloomberg Philanthropies, as well as Ms. Ingrid van Wees, Vice-President for Finance and Risk Management of Asia Development Bank attended the side event and delivered speeches. Speakers emphasize the vital role of sustainable ocean governance and pointed out the necessity of enhancing partnership to realize high-quality development of BRI.

Ms. Wang Juying from National Marine Environmental Monitoring Centre, Chinese lead partner of the newly launched thematic partnership, introduced four priorities of the partnership, including promoting regional marine environmental protection and governance, promoting regional marine biodiversity conservation and the sustainable management and utilization of bio-resources, enhancing cooperation in addressing climate change in marine-related areas, and promoting high-level dialogue. Representatives of international lead partners, including Mr. Eric Schwab, Senior Vice President of Oceans of EDF, Mr. Remi Eriksen, Group President and CEO of Norway DNV GL and representative from Bloomberg Philanthropies also explained their potential contributions and expectation towards the partnership. Mr. Li Yonghong, Deputy Director General of Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center of Chinese Ministry of Ecology and Environment appreciated the great support from partners and noted that BRIGC will make good use of the new thematic partnership to enable enhanced efforts and pragmatic actions in building the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road.

The side event was jointly organized by BRIGC Secretariat, CCICED Secretariat, and EDF.



Highlights of the Remarks



Just as the ambitions for the Belt and Road Initiative are very high, we need to have very high ambitions for the green development of the Belt and Road. The ocean is a victim to climate or climate change, but the ocean also holds solutions. Renewable offshore energy, greening and decarbonized shipping and other ocean industries, fish and seafood as climate-friendly proteins, nature-based solutions, and carbon capturing and storage below the seabed are the 5 areas that call for urgent actions. I think launching this Thematic Partnership can really help us exploit and explore good opportunities going forward.

—— Mr. Vidar Helgesen, BRIGC Co-Chair, CCICED Vice Chairperson, and Norway's Special Envoy for the Ocean, Former Minister of Ministry of Climate and Environment of Norway

The ocean has been supporting our economy and our civilization, but also faces growing pressure today. There is not going to be sustainable development if we don't at the same time assume environmental responsibility. It is imperative to decouple economic development, infrastructure development from environmental degradation. China's ecological civilization brings about a new opportunity to assume environmental responsibility. In terms of realizing the sustainable development of ocean, in addition to the ecological footprint of coastal infrastructure, we also need to pay attention to the infrastructure development on clean energy and the impact of river infrastructure, such as dams on ecosystems.

—— Mr. Marco Lambertini, BRIGC Co-Chair, CCICED Member, and Director General of WWF International



Standing from a historical point, the development of Silk Road and Maritime Silk Road has always been delivering signals of peace. The Belt and Road Initiative is a symbol of peace, too. For greening Maritime Silk Road, it is critical to make this really a partnership, a partnership between different countries and a partnership between public and private sector. In terms of areas where we need to work, I suggest focusing on green ports, green shipping, circular economy and biodiversity at sea.

—— Mr. Eric Solheim, Convener of the Advisory Committee of BRIGC, CCICED Vice Chairperson, and Senior Advisor of WRI

Highlights of the Remarks

Environmental work is a core pillar in the mission of Bloomberg Philanthropies. We're really thrilled by the establishment of the ocean's track under the Coalition. We see it as an opportunity certainly in China and in partnership, but also in other coastal countries. We think the BRI International Green Development Coalition offers a really crucial opportunity and effort to ensure that ocean ecosystems and the people around the world who rely on them for food and livelihood are well protected.

—— Ms. Antha Williams, Advisor of the Advisory Committee of BRIGC and Global Head of Environmental Programs of Bloomberg Philanthropies



ADB shares the BRI vision of improved connectivity for shared prosperity. ADB can collaborate with BRI through projects that are technically befitting and come as reasonable economic and financial returns, through projects that adhere to international environmental and social safeguard standards, and through projects that adopt good project governance, which includes also procurement. Good marine governance is the only way we can protect our oceans and secure the ecosystem benefits we derive from it. ADB looks forward to collaborating with the Thematic Partnership on Maritime Community with A Shared Future and Marine Environment Governance on promoting healthy oceans.

—— Ms. Ingrid van Wees, Vice-President for Finance and Risk Management of Asia Development Bank

In April of 2019, Chinese President Xi Jinping proposed building a Maritime Community with A Shared Future. This Thematic Partnership will provide a platform for maritime cooperation and pursuing a path of harmony between man and ocean, which features green development, ocean-based support priority, and maritime security, innovative growth and cooperative governance. This Thematic Partnership will enhance cooperation on 4 priority areas, respectively regional marine environment protection and governance, regional marine biodiversity conservation and the sustainable management and utilization of bio-resources, climate change mitigation and adaptation in marine-related areas, and promoting high-level dialogue on marine.

—— Ms. Wang Juying, National Marine Environmental Monitoring Centre, Chinese lead partner of “Maritime Community with a Shared Future and Marine Governance” Thematic Partnership



Highlights of the Remarks



The marine partnership under the Green BRI Coalition seeks to disseminate ocean solutions to BRI countries and others. We, at the Environmental Defense Fund, want to help share knowledge, best practices, and lessons learned as widely as possible.

—— Mr. Eric Schwab, Senior Vice President of Oceans of EDF, international lead partner of “Maritime Community with a Shared Future and Marine Governance” Thematic Partnership

DN VGL has been living up to its mission of safeguarding life property and the environment for more than 150 years. More than 70 percent of our activity is related to the ocean. DN VGL could contribute among others, green knowledge and expertise, standards, technologies and recommended practices that are internationally acknowledged. We look forward to cooperation with the other BRIGC partners to promote green shipping, green energy, and blue oceans.

—— Mr. Remi Eriksen, Group President and CEO of Norway DNV GL, international lead partner of “Maritime Community with a Shared Future and Marine Governance” Thematic Partnership



Thank you for all your kind support to the green development of the BRI. I would like to share with you four points. First, the Belt and Road is not only an Initiative on prosperity, but also an initiative for green development. Secondly, the BRI International Green Development Coalition is an open cooperation platform to make green as one of the fundamental features of development. Thirdly, promoting marine environment governance is a fundamental part of Green BRI. Fourthly, the Coalition welcomes all interested partners to join us and make joint efforts to contribute to green transformation.

—— Mr. Li Yonghong, Deputy Director General of Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center of Chinese Ministry of Ecology and Environment

High-level Dialogue on the Role of Ocean in Addressing Climate Change Was Held in Beijing

The BRI International Green Development Coalition (BRIGC) and the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED) jointly hosted the High-level Dialogue on the Role of Ocean in Addressing Climate Change on October 30, 2019 in Beijing, China. The Dialogue aims to better understand how ocean could contribute to mitigating climate change.

Mr. Vidar Helgesen, BRIGC Co-Chair, CCICED Vice Chairperson, and Norway's Special Envoy for the Ocean, Former Minister of Ministry of Climate and Environment of Norway, attended the Dialogue. Based on the report of *The Ocean as a Solution for Climate Change: 5 Opportunities for Action* released by High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy, he shared the role and potential contributions of ocean to renewable energy, maritime transportation, coastal and marine ecosystem, marine fishing, aquaculture and diet shift as well as seabed carbon storage. He advocated to take actions immediately.

As one of the dialogists, Ms. Wang Juying, representative of Chinese lead partner of "Maritime Community with a Shared Future and Marine Governance" Thematic Partnership, Secretary General of National Marine Environmental Monitoring Centre, highlighted that ocean is vital to address climate change. She noted that in the past 150 year, ocean absorbed about 90% of the heat from climate change and around 30% of the carbon dioxide generated from human activities. Yet by far the society has not been fully aware of the importance of the ocean to climate change. *The Ocean as a Solution for Climate Change* not only directed global focus on ocean, but also proposed the areas to tap into the full potential of oceans in mitigating emissions, provided the solutions from ocean in mitigating climate change, and pointed a specific direction for future work of involving ocean-related efforts to address climate change. To adopt new technologies and methods, people must pay adequate attention to the EIA on marine environment, said Wang.

This Dialogue attracted over 30 representatives from Chinese Academy of Fishery Sciences, Tsinghua University, China Association for NGO Cooperation, the Embassy of Norway to China, Basel Convention Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific, International Union for Conservation of Nature, World Resources Institute, and Greenovation Hub etc. Mr. Zhou Qiulin, Research Fellow from the Third Institute of Oceanography, Ministry of Natural Resources and other experts joined the Dialogue through video.

(Source: Environmental Defense Fund)

The Belt and Road International Forum on Connectivity for China Ecological Civilization Forum Was Held in Shiyan, Hubei

The Belt and Road International Forum on Connectivity, the sub-forum of China Ecological Civilization Forum Shiyan Annual Conference was held on the afternoon of November 16, 2019. With the theme of "Focusing on Connectivity for Promoting the Green Development of the Belt and Road", the Forum featured discussions over multi-stakeholder interaction, deepening green and pragmatic cooperation, civil societies bridging people-to-people exchange and facilitating high-quality development of the Belt and Road. Mr. Guo Jing, Director General of Department of International Cooperation of Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE) addressed the opening ceremony. Dr. Zhou Guomei, Executive Director General of Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center, MEE delivered a keynote speech.

The Forum was organized by Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center and China Ecological Civilization Research and Promotion Association, under the guidance of the Department of International Cooperation of MEE with support from BRIGC. Representatives from UN Environment Programme, NGOs from China and the international communities, local authorities, Cambodian and Laotian organizations and companies attended the Forum.

The Seminar on Green BRI Pilot Projects with Enterprises Was Held in Beijing

On October 28, 2019, the Seminar on Green BRI Pilot Projects with Enterprises was held in Beijing in a bid to carry out exchange and discussions on the Green Pilot Projects to be implemented by BRIGC for the next step work. The seminar was moderated by Mr. Li Yonghong, Deputy Director General of Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center, MEE. China National Petroleum Corporation, China Railway Construction Corporation Limited, China Communications Construction Company Limited, China Everbright International Limited, and Shenlian Environmental Protection Group among other BRIGC Partners attended the seminar.

Green Pilot Projects in BRI participating countries are among BRIGC work plans, aiming to give full play to the advantages of all stakeholders based on the BRIGC platform, promote the green development of BRI construction projects and prevent environmental risks. In addition, Green Pilot Projects will enhance the involvement of business in performing environmental and social responsibilities, promote the joint participation of local authorities, communities and NGOs, organize outreach activities related to the environmental outcomes for BRI construction projects and provide safeguards for the green development of the Belt and Road.

Upcoming Activities

BRIGC Advisory Committee Meeting and Thematic Partnerships Coordination Meeting Will Be Held in Shenzhen

BRIGC will have its Advisory Committee Meeting and Thematic Partnerships Coordination Meeting in Shenzhen on December 2 – 3, 2019.

Time: December 2 (Evening) and December 3 (Morning), 2019

Venue: Marco Polo Shenzhen, 28 Fuhua 1st Road, Futian CBD, Shenzhen 518048, China

Joint Study of Green Development Guidance on BRI Projects Will Be Initiated in Beijing

BRIGC will organize a meeting in December to officially inaugurate the Joint Study of Green Development Guidance on BRI Projects (the “Green Light” System).

This joint study intends to propose procedures for the assessment and classification of BRI projects, from the perspective of prevention and mitigation of eco-environmental risks, supporting the decision-making of financial institutions and relevant stakeholders.

Time: December 10, 2019

Venue: Beijing

Environmental Laws, Regulations and Standards

The International Workshop on Frontier Technologies in Smart Environmental Supervision and Law Enforcement Held in Beijing

On October 18, 2019, the International Workshop on Frontier Technologies in Smart Environmental Supervision and Law Enforcement was held in Beijing. As an event under the BRIGC Thematic Partnership of Environmental Laws, Regulations and Standards, the workshop was co-hosted by Appraisal Center for Environment and Engineering (ACEE) and China Environment Supervision Magazine. With the theme of "Smart Environmental Supervision", the workshop brought together around 80 participants from six countries and regions, including China, the United States, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Belgium and Hong Kong SAR, representing environmental law enforcement community, international organizations, academic circle, and business community.

The workshop focused on four topics, namely, "the Landscape of International Environmental Law Enforcement", "Future Application and Development of Big Data in Environmental Law Enforcement", "the Frontier Technologies in Environmental Law Enforcement" and "International Practice Sharing in Environmental Law Enforcement and Compliance". The meeting saw lively discussions on the status quo, the trends and the notions of environmental law enforcement in China and beyond, as well as on the innovation and application of the cutting-edge law enforcement technologies.

(Source: Thematic Partnership of Environmental Laws, Regulations and Standards)



Views and Research Progress

The Report of *Harmonizing Investment and Financing Standards towards Sustainable Development along the Belt and Road* Was Released

On November 6, 2019, the report of *Harmonizing Investment and Financing Standards towards Sustainable Development along the Belt and Road* by a joint research team from China Development Bank and United Nations Development Programme was officially released. In an innovative way, the report proposes the framework of financing and investment related to the Belt and Road and comes up with 8 main principles, including environmental protection directly related to financing and investment activities, social development, alignment of plans, financial sustainability over the entire life-cycle of the project, debt sustainability, open and transparent purchase, risk management and control as well as evaluation of project outcomes.

(Source: Belt and Road Portal)



About Us

The BRI International Green Development Coalition is jointly initiated by Ministry of Ecology and Environment of China and international partners. The ever-growing needs on implementing UN 2030 SDGs and the need to make progress towards the Paris Agreement targets for the BRI participating countries require the cooperation among governments, local and international development agencies, think tanks, private sectors, civil societies and other stakeholders to maximize the concerted effort on green development.

The main goal is to promote international consensus, understanding, cooperation and concredited actions to realize green development on the Belt and Road, to integrate sustainable development into the BRI through joint efforts and to facilitate BRI participating countries to realize SDGs related to environment and development. Government departments, local and international organizations, think tanks, private sectors, civil society organizations and other related stakeholders that endorses the mission of BRIGC are welcome to join as Partners.

For More Information

<http://eng.greenbr.org.cn/icfgd/>

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