



BRI GREEN REVIEW

Secretariat of BRI International Green Development Coalition



GREEN SILK ROAD NEWS

- Full Text of Xi's Statement at the General Debate of the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly
- Full Text of Chinese President Xi Jinping's Keynote Speech at the Leaders' Summit of the 15th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity
- People's Daily: Jointly Building Green Belt and Road
- People's Daily: Jointly Building Belt and Road Achieves Inspiring Results--Green Investment and Projects Facilitate Green Recovery of the Global Economy
- Ceremony for the Delivery of the Ground-based Mobile Meteorological Application System from China to Uruguay under the Framework of China-Uruguay South-South Cooperation on Climate Change Successfully Held

COALITION UPDATES

- China to Stop New Coal Abroad for Greener BRI
- Dialogue on Developing Green and Low-Carbon Energy via Belt and Road Initiative Held in Beijing
- Symposium on Synergizing BRI Green Development Guidance and GIP
- Belt and Road Seminar on Green and Low Carbon Transition Held in Beijing
- Webinar on Green and Low-Carbon Development in ASEAN Member States within BRI Held in Beijing
- International Seminar on Environmental Standards among BRI Countries Held in Beijing
- Upcoming: Roundtable on BRI Green Development and BRIGC Policy Studies Release 2021 to be Held

PROGRESS OF THE THEMATIC PARTNERSHIPS

- Improvement of Environmental Quality and Green Cities; South-South Environmental Cooperation and SDGs Capacity Building

VIEWS

- Mr. Erik Solheim: China's Decision to Stop Building New Coal-fired Power Projects Abroad Creates New Momentum for Global Action in Addressing Climate Change
- Prof. Chen Yongjun: Upholding Sustainable Development Concepts and Promoting Joint Efforts in Building Green Belt and Road
- Dr. Christoph B. NEDOPIL WANG: China's Decision to Stop Building New Coal-fired Power Projects Abroad is an Important Move in Promoting Global Efforts in Addressing Climate Change

Full Text of Xi's Statement at the General Debate of the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

On September 21, 2021, Chinese President Xi Jinping made a statement at the general debate of the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly via video. The full text of the statement is as follows:

Bolstering Confidence and Jointly Overcoming Difficulties To Build a Better World

Mr. President,

The year 2021 is a truly remarkable one for the Chinese people. This year marks the centenary of the Communist Party of China. It is also the 50th anniversary of the restoration of the lawful seat of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations, a historic event which will be solemnly commemorated by China. We will continue our active efforts to take China's cooperation with the United Nations to a new level and make new and greater contributions to advancing the noble cause of the UN.

A year ago, global leaders attended the high-level meetings marking the 75th anniversary of the UN and issued a declaration pledging to fight COVID-19 in solidarity, tackle challenges together, uphold multilateralism, strengthen the role of the UN, and work for the common future of present and coming generations.

One year on, our world is facing the combined impacts of changes unseen in a century and the COVID-19 pandemic. In all countries, people long for peace and development more than ever before, their call for equity and justice is growing stronger, and they are more determined in pursuing win-win cooperation.

Right now, COVID-19 is still raging in the world, and profound changes are taking place in human society. The world has entered a period of new turbulence and transformation. It falls on each and every responsible statesman to answer the questions of our times and make a historical choice with confidence, courage and a sense of mission.

First, we must beat COVID-19 and win this decisive fight crucial to the future of humanity. The history of world civilization is also one of fighting pandemics. Rising to challenges, humanity has always emerged in triumph and achieved greater development and advancement. The current pandemic may appear overwhelming, but we humanity will surely overcome it and prevail.

We should always put people and their lives first, and care about the life, value and dignity of every individual. We need to respect science, take a science-based approach, and follow the laws of science. We need to both follow routine, targeted COVID-19 protocols and take emergency response measures, and both carry out epidemic control and promote economic and social development. We need to enhance coordinated global COVID-19 response and minimize the risk of cross-border virus transmission.

Vaccination is our powerful weapon against COVID-19. I have stressed on many occasions the need to make vaccines a global public good and ensure vaccine accessibility and affordability in developing countries. Of pressing priority is to ensure the fair and equitable distribution of vaccines globally. China will strive to provide a total of two billion doses of vaccines to the world by the end of this year. In addition to donating 100 million US dollars to COVAX, China will donate 100 million doses of vaccines to other developing countries in the course of this year. China will continue to support and engage in global science-based origins tracing, and stands firmly opposed to political maneuvering in whatever form.

Second, we must revitalize the economy and pursue more robust, greener and more balanced global development. Development holds the key to people's well-being. Facing the severe shocks of COVID-19, we need to work together to steer global development toward a new stage of balanced, coordinated and inclusive growth. To this end, I would like to propose a Global Development Initiative:

— **Staying committed to development as a priority.** We need to put development high on the global macro policy agenda, strengthen policy coordination among major economies, and ensure policy continuity, consistency and sustainability. We need to foster global development partnerships that are more equal and balanced, forge greater synergy among multilateral development cooperation processes, and speed up the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

— **Staying committed to a people-centered approach.** We should safeguard and improve people's livelihoods and

protect and promote human rights through development, and make sure that development is for the people and by the people, and that its fruits are shared among the people. We should continue our work so that the people will have a greater sense of happiness, benefit and security, and achieve well-rounded development.

— **Staying committed to benefits for all.** We should care about the special needs of developing countries. We may employ such means as debt suspension and development aid to help developing countries, particularly vulnerable ones facing exceptional difficulties, with emphasis on addressing unbalanced and inadequate development among and within countries.

— **Staying committed to innovation-driven development.** We need to seize the historic opportunities created by the latest round of technological revolution and industrial transformation, redouble efforts to harness technological achievements to boost productivity, and foster an open, fair, equitable and non-discriminatory environment for the development of science and technology. We should foster new growth drivers in the post-COVID era and jointly achieve leapfrog development.

— **Staying committed to harmony between man and nature.** We need to improve global environmental governance, actively respond to climate change and create a community of life for man and nature. We need to accelerate transition to a green and low-carbon economy and achieve green recovery and development. China will strive to peak carbon dioxide emissions before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060. This requires tremendous hard work, and we will make every effort to meet these goals. China will step up support for other developing countries in developing green and low-carbon energy, and will not build new coal-fired power projects abroad.

— **Staying committed to results-oriented actions.** We need to increase input in development, advance on a priority basis cooperation on poverty alleviation, food security, COVID-19 response and vaccines, development financing, climate change and green development, industrialization, digital economy and connectivity, among other areas, and accelerate implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, so as to build a global community of development with a shared future. China has pledged an additional three billion US dollars of international assistance in the next three years to support developing countries in responding to COVID-19 and promoting economic and social recovery.

Third, we must strengthen solidarity and promote mutual respect and win-win cooperation in conducting international relations. A world of peace and development should embrace civilizations of various forms, and must accommodate diverse paths to modernization. Democracy is not a special right reserved to an individual country, but a right for the people of all countries to enjoy. Recent developments in the global situation show once again that military intervention from the outside and so-called democratic transformation entail nothing but harm. We need to advocate peace, development, equity, justice, democracy and freedom, which are the common values of humanity, and reject the practice of forming small circles or zero-sum games.

Differences and problems among countries, hardly avoidable, need to be handled through dialogue and cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual respect. One country's success does not have to mean another country's failure, and the world is big enough to accommodate common development and progress of all countries. We need to pursue dialogue and inclusiveness over confrontation and exclusion. We need to build a new type of international relations based on mutual respect, equity, justice and win-win cooperation, and do the best we can to expand the convergence of our interests and achieve the biggest synergy possible.

The Chinese people have always celebrated and striven to pursue the vision of peace, amity and harmony. China has never and will never invade or bully others, or seek hegemony. China is always a builder of world peace, contributor to global development, defender of the international order and provider of public goods. China will continue to bring the world new opportunities through its new development.

Fourth, we must improve global governance and practice true multilateralism. In the world, there is only one international system, i.e. the international system with the United Nations at its core. There is only one international order, i.e. the international order underpinned by international law. And there is only one set of rules, i.e. the basic norms governing international relations underpinned by the purposes and principles of the UN Charter.

The UN should hold high the banner of true multilateralism and serve as the central platform for countries to jointly safeguard universal security, share development achievements and chart the course for the future of the world. The UN should stay committed to ensuring a stable international order, increasing the representation and say of developing countries in international affairs, and taking the lead in advancing democracy and rule of law in international relations. The UN should advance, in a balanced manner, work in all the three areas of security, development and human rights. It should set common agenda, highlight pressing issues and focus on real actions, and see to it that commitments made by all parties to multilateralism are truly delivered.

The world is once again at a historical crossroads. I am convinced that the trend of peace, development and advancement for humanity is irresistible. Let us bolster confidence and jointly address global threats and challenges, and work together to build a community with a shared future for mankind and a better world for all.

(Source: Xinhua)

Full Text of Chinese President Xi Jinping's Keynote Speech at the Leaders' Summit of the 15th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity

On October 12, 2021, Chinese President Xi Jinping delivered a keynote speech via video link at the leaders' summit of the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15) held in Kunming, southwest China's Yunnan Province. The full text of the speech is as follows:

Working Together to Build a Community of All Life on Earth

Dear Colleagues,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Friends,

Good afternoon.

It gives me great pleasure to meet you virtually in Kunming and jointly attend the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. On behalf of the government and people of China as well as in my own name, I wish to extend a warm welcome to all the distinguished guests.

As a Chinese saying goes, "All beings flourish when they live in harmony and receive nourishment from Nature." Biodiversity makes Earth full of vigor and vitality, and lays the foundation for human survival and development. Protecting biodiversity helps protect Earth, our common homeland, and contributes to humanity's sustainable development.

The Kunming conference, under the theme of "Ecological Civilization: Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth", has great significance. It will work for the conclusion of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, and identify targets and pathways for global biodiversity protection in the future. In this context, the international community must enhance cooperation, build consensus and pool strength to build a community of all life on Earth.

Man and Nature need to coexist in harmony. When we take care to protect Nature, Nature rewards us generously; when we exploit Nature ruthlessly, it punishes us without mercy. We need to have deep reverence for Nature, respect Nature, follow Nature's laws and protect Nature, so as to build a homeland of harmonious coexistence between man and Nature.

Green mountains are gold mountains and silver mountains. A sound ecology and environment is not just a natural asset, but also an economic asset, and it affects the potential and momentum of economic and social development. We need to speed up efforts to foster a green way of development and secure a win-win of economic growth and environmental protection, so as to build a homeland of coordinated advancement of economy and the environment.

The COVID-19 pandemic has cast a shadow over global development and compounded challenges to the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Faced with the dual tasks of economic recovery and environmental protection, developing countries need help and support all the more. We need to strengthen solidarity to overcome difficulties and let people across countries benefit more and in a fairer way from development outcomes and a sound environment, so as to build a homeland of common development of all countries.

We are living in an era both fraught with challenges and full of hopes. As long as we press ahead with perseverance, a bright future will beckon. For the sake of our common future, we need to join hands and start a new journey of high-quality development for humanity.

First, we shall take the development of ecological civilization as our guide to coordinate the relationship between man and Nature. We need to solve the problems brought by industrial civilization, keep human activities within the limits of the ecology and environment, and carry out holistic conservation and systematic governance of mountains, rivers, forests, farmlands, lakes, grasslands and deserts.

Second, we shall let green transition drive our efforts to facilitate global sustainable development. We need to build a green, low-carbon and circular economic system, translate ecological strengths into development strengths, and bring out the great benefit that green mountains and clear waters can offer. We also need to step up green international cooperation and share the fruits of green development among all countries.

Third, we shall concentrate on bettering people's well-being to promote social equity and justice. We need to keep in mind the people's aspiration for a better life, pursue win-win results in environmental protection, economic development, job creation, poverty alleviation and other endeavors, and increase the sense of fulfillment, happiness and security of people in all countries.

Fourth, we shall take international law as the basis to uphold a fair and equitable international governance system. We need to practice true multilateralism, and effectively honor and implement international rules, which are not to be exploited or discarded at one's own will. The new environmental protection targets we set need to be ambitious on the one hand and pragmatic and balanced on the other, so as to make the global environmental governance system fairer and more equitable.

Colleagues,

China has made remarkable progress in building an ecological civilization. The recent story of the northward travel and return of a group of elephants in Yunnan Province in southwestern China shows the vivid results of our endeavor to protect wild animals. China will continue to advance ecological progress, stay committed to implementing the new development philosophy emphasizing innovative, coordinated, green and open development for all, and build a beautiful China.

On this occasion, I wish to announce China's initiative to establish a Kunming Biodiversity Fund and take the lead by investing 1.5 billion RMB yuan to support biodiversity protection in developing countries. China also calls for and welcomes contributions from other parties to the fund.

To strengthen biodiversity protection, China is moving faster to establish a protected areas system with national parks as the mainstay. Over time, areas with the greatest importance to the natural ecosystem, and with the most unique natural landscapes, the most valuable natural heritage and the greatest biodiversity reserve will be included in the national parks system. China has officially designated its first group of national parks that includes the Three-River-Source National Park, the Giant Panda National Park, the Northeast China Tiger and Leopard National Park, the Hainan Tropical Forests National Park, and the Wuyishan National Park. The protected land area is 230,000 square kilometers and they cover nearly 30 percent of the key terrestrial wildlife species found in China. In the meantime, acting by the principle of striking a balance between on-site and translocation conservation, China has started building a system of national botanical gardens in places like Beijing and Guangzhou.

To achieve its carbon peak and neutrality targets, China will release implementation plans for peaking carbon dioxide emissions in key areas and sectors as well as a series of supporting measures, and will put in place a "1+N" policy framework for carbon peak and carbon neutrality. China will continue to readjust its industrial structure and energy mix, vigorously develop renewable energy, and make faster progress in planning and developing large wind power and photovoltaic bases in sandy areas, rocky areas and deserts. The first phase of projects with an installed capacity of approximately 100 million kilowatts have recently started construction in a smooth fashion.

Colleagues,

If we humanity do not fail Nature, Nature will not fail us. Ecological civilization represents the development trend of human civilization. Let us join hands, follow the philosophy of ecological civilization and shoulder our responsibility for future generations. Let us make joint efforts to build a community of all life on Earth, and a clean and beautiful world for us all.

(Source: Xinhua)

People's Daily: Jointly Building Green Belt and Road

China is a participator, contributor and leader of global ecological civilization development. Upholding the concept of green development, China has been making joint efforts with all sides to build a green Belt and Road and promote high-quality win-win cooperation.

"Promoting biodiversity conservation with high-quality management"

Ecuador Minas hydropower project built by Harbin Electric International Co., Ltd. (HEI) is the third largest hydropower project in Ecuador. Being put into operation in 2019, the project was handed over to Ecuador in April this year. The project will help to build a strong and resilient electricity supply network in Ecuador.

"In the past, Ecuador has a heavy reliance on oil for energy supply. With increasing domestic demand for electricity, we gradually realized that clean energy is the trend for the future", said the general manager of Ecuador's National Electric Power Company.

According to monitoring results, instead of biodiversity loss, the local area witnessed an increase in biodiversity in the process of project construction. Before project construction, 66 plant species were discovered in the construction area, while the latest environmental monitoring data shows that 141 plant species were found, including 5 endemic species. Besides, a variety of birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles and fish live in this area, including some rare species. Juan Pablo, environmental engineer of Minas hydropower project said, "the high-quality project management implemented by the Chinese side effectively promoted biodiversity conservation."

"Enhancing local ecological construction, securing downstream water supply"

Bosnia and Herzegovina is endowed with rich hydropower resources. According to estimation, Bosnia and Herzegovina has the potential to generate 6,000 MW of hydropower, nearly triple the installed capacity of existing hydropower projects. In December 2019, a hydropower project built by Power Construction Corp of China (Power China) was put into construction. Located on the upper stream of Neretva River, the project has an installed capacity of 34.44 MW. Project construction, including dams, tunnels and factory buildings, is expected to be finished in the end of March, 2024.

"The project is expected to produce 82.34 GW of electric power annually after being put into operation, saving about 33,000 tons of standard coal and reducing CO2 emission by 83,000 tons", said project manager Zhang Hua. Local environmental management companies are invited to oversee project construction. According to Minister of Energy, Mining and Industry of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the project, apart from generating electric power, will also significantly improve local environment.

According to mayor of the local town, the hydropower project brings people to the city, promotes the development of local trade and services, creates jobs and increases the income of local residents.

"Facilitating the harmonious development of ecology and the society"

Kipeto Wind Energy Project built by China Machinery Engineering Corporation (CMEC) is the second largest wind power project in Kenya. The wind farm, situated in Kajiado County, Southwest of Nairobi, is expected to meet the electricity demand for 250,000 local people. According to Dr. Kenneth Namunje, President of CWEIL, Kenya plans to increase its installed capacity by 1,000 MW annually before 2030, with the development of green energy sources, including wind power, geothermal power and solar power as the priority.

Kajiado County is the habitat for many animal species. Therefore, the Kipeto Wind Energy Project adopted strict environmental standards throughout the construction process. In selecting the site for wind turbines, in collaboration with Birdlife International, Peregrine Fund, East Africa Natural History Society and Kenya Trust Fund for Bird of Prey, CMEC conducted research on the migration route of vulture to avoid collision. At the same time, the Chinese side also established rehabilitation centers to look after injured birds.

African sandalwood is also a protected species on the construction site. The Chinese side proposed the "sandalwood relocation strategy" based on the biodiversity action plan jointly developed by multiple parties to relocate sandalwood in the area to other places.

Namunje said that the project donates saplings to local primary and secondary schools to promote the concept of environmental protection and call on community residents to contribute to a shared green environment." Charles Keter, Kenya's Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Energy and Petroleum said, "Chinese enterprises in Kenya have contributed to the harmonious development of ecology and society, providing more than 800 jobs for local communities during the construction period."

(Sources: People's Daily)

People's Daily: Jointly Building Belt and Road Achieves Inspiring Results--Green Investment and Projects Facilitate Green Recovery of the Global Economy

Cooperation under the framework of BRI has achieved fruitful outcomes. Recently, media and experts from around the world has been advocating for more active engagement in jointly building the Belt and Road to seize development opportunities for shared prosperity. Green investment and projects facilitate green recovery of the global economy, deliver tangible benefits to countries and regions along the Belt and Road, and help to address more complicated global challenges through joint efforts.

Greener investments and projects help the global economy recover in a green way

Bloomberg cites data from a report written by the International Institute of Green Finance: "Energy and transport accounted for 65% of all BRI investment in the first half. Within the energy sector, 37% of funding went to natural gas, 30% to oil and 28% to hydropower. China is attempting to make its investments more environmentally sustainable."

Benjamin Barton, an assistant professor at the School of Politics, History and International Relations at the University of Nottingham Malaysia, said in an interview with the media that the joint construction of the Belt and Road will open up a new path for EU-China security cooperation in the future. "Europe and China share similar interests and concerns on security issues. Europe has extensive experience in counter-terrorism. The joint construction of the Belt and Road opens up more possibilities for bilateral security cooperation."

British scholar Martin Jacques wrote, "the main objective of 'Belt and Road Initiative' is to bring development and growth to great expanses of the Eurasian land mass, and beyond, that have so far been left out and left behind. While Western-style globalisation was characterised by exclusivity, China's rests on inclusivity. For the developing world, the appeal of BRI is obvious and irresistible."

Bringing real benefits to countries and regions along the BRI

The U.S. magazine Newsweek described the Belt and Road Initiative as, "One of the most successful and influential economic projects." In an interview, Maya Majueran and Yashiru Ranaraja, co-founders of the Belt & Road Initiative Sri Lanka, pointed out that it promotes common development and prosperity through win-win cooperation, and enhances mutual understanding and trust through peace and friendship.

(Sources: People's Daily)

Ceremony for the Delivery of the Ground-based Mobile Meteorological Application System from China to Uruguay under the Framework of China-Uruguay South-South Cooperation on Climate Change Successfully Held

On September 22, Ceremony for the Delivery of the Ground-based Mobile Meteorological Application System from China to Uruguay under the Framework of China-Uruguay South-South Cooperation on Climate Change was held in Beijing. Zhao Yingmin, Vice Minister of Ecology and Environment, and Fernando Lugris, the Uruguayan ambassador to China, attended and addressed the Ceremony.

China has been attaching great importance to addressing climate change. While steadily promoting green and low-carbon development in the country, China has also been actively engaging in South-South cooperation to help other developing countries to improve the capacity of addressing climate change. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations 33 years ago, China and Uruguay have been respecting and supporting each other. To implement the Belt and Road



South-South Cooperation Initiative on Climate Change under the framework of BRI and the “Ten-Hundred-Thousand Program” proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping, the two countries signed documents in the end of 2019. According to the agreement, China will aid Uruguay with a ground-based mobile meteorological application system to improve the capacity of Uruguay in addressing climate change. The two sides will work together to ensure that the project delivers tangible benefits, promote experience sharing, enhance cooperation in addressing climate change and bring real benefits to people of both countries.

The ground-based system will help Uruguay to improve the capacity in addressing climate change in terms of agricultural production, environmental monitoring and extreme weather event prediction. The Uruguayan side expressed the appreciation for China’s efforts in addressing climate change and the willingness to continue to work together with China in environment and climate with more extensive cooperation in related fields. It is expected that the system could be put into operation in Uruguay as soon as possible to facilitate Uruguay’s efforts in addressing climate change. Currently, the system has gone through production and trial operation, and will soon be delivered to Uruguay.

(Source: Ministry of Ecology and Environment)

China to Stop New Coal Abroad for Greener BRI

The joint effort of China and BRI participating countries in promoting green and low-carbon transition is a significant component of BRI green development. Since its establishment in April 2019, the BRI International Green Development Coalition (BRIGC) has focused on green and low-carbon development of BRI to carry out a series of activities. It has established 10 thematic partnerships (TPs), especially the TP on Global Climate Change Governance and Green Transformation, and the TP on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency. BRIGC has also been following up on key topics such as green development of BRI projects, green and low-carbon transition in key BRI-covered areas, green investment and financing, as well as green development cases and best practices through policy dialogues and joint studies. Positive progress has been made.

The first highlight is the research on BRI Green Development Guidance for BRI Projects. In December 2019, BRIGC launched the Study on Green Development Guidance for BRI Projects (thereby referred to as the Guidance Project) with its Chinese and international partners. The Guidance Project investigates three major environmental objectives – pollution prevention, climate change mitigation, and biodiversity conservation, and proposes a classification system for BRI projects. Based on the international standards and general norms, the system lists coal-fired power projects as projects with strict regulatory requirements (i.e., "red projects"). The Phase 1 research output of the Guidance Project was formally released in December 2020 and received wide attention from China and abroad. The international media expressed their approval of the Guidance's classification of coal-fired power projects as "red projects" and believed that the Guidance could help stakeholders avoid high-risk projects. The Phase 2 study of the Guidance Project narrows down its scope to the transport infrastructure such as highway and railroad and prepares industry-level guidelines for the green development of projects. Related research output will be released this year.

The second effort is a special research on the development trend of coal replacement policy in overseas investment. In February 2021, BRIGC's research team completed the special research report on the development trend of coal replacement policy in overseas investment. The report systematically reviews the recent policies related to the gradual withdrawal from coal-fired power by major developed countries, selected developing countries (coal power investment hotspots) and multilateral financial institutions around the world, and puts forward recommendations in consideration of the status and challenges in China's overseas energy investment. The report was submitted to the competent authorities and firmly underpinned the decision making on China's overseas coal-related investments.

The third initiative is to promote green and low-carbon transition in key BRI-covered areas. Since 2019, BRIGC has conducted three phases of Special Policy Study on the Green BRI and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development under the framework of the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED). The study proposes the general principles, goals, and roadmaps for the comprehensive alignment between green Silk Road and the Sustainable Development Goals. The study in 2021 recommends phasing out overseas investments in coal mining and coal-fired power plants. BRIGC also released two issues of "BRI Green Development Case Studies Report" to share the best practices of Chinese enterprises in ecological and environmental protection. At the same time, with a focus on key areas including the pathways for green transition in Southeast Asia, industry-specific guidelines for sustainable infrastructure, standards for green energy projects, and development of demonstration projects, BRIGC carries out policy dialogues, joint research, capacity building, and technical cooperation to jointly push forward green and low-carbon development of BRI with participating countries.

The fourth endeavor is the policy study report on BRI carbon market feasibility study. The report reviews the status of socio-economic development and emissions and analyzes, both qualitatively and quantitatively, the feasibility of establishing carbon markets in major BRI countries and regions. The report's findings show that, with further improvements to China's national carbon market, not only China can accelerate the transition to green and low-carbon energy, BRI countries can also join hands with China to take the path of low-carbon development and launch carbon markets, starting with their own power sectors. The report also proposes to promote in-depth cooperation and exchanges on related topics among the BRI countries and accelerate the development of disciplines and talents related to climate change and carbon markets.

BRIGC has received extensive support from the Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF), Energy Foundation (EF), ClientEarth, World Resources Institute (WRI), World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), Tanoto Foundation, Climate Bonds Initiative, China Quality Certification Center (CQC), China Everbright Environment Group Limited, National Center for Climate Change Strategy and International Cooperation, Belt and Road Environmental Technology Exchange and Transfer Center (Shenzhen), Transport Planning and Research Institute of the Ministry of Transport, and other Chinese and international partners. President Xi Jinping's announcement has pointed out a new direction for international cooperation on addressing climate change and accelerating the green transition. In the future, BRIGC will work closely with Chinese and international partners to build a closer green partnership, foster consensus and unite efforts for the high-quality development of BRI, and ensure the green BRI development.

Dialogue on Developing Green and Low-Carbon Energy via Belt and Road Initiative Held in Beijing

On September 21, 2021, President Xi Jinping announced at the general debate of the 76th session of the UN General Assembly that “China will step up support for other developing countries in developing green and low-carbon energy and will not build new coal-fired power projects abroad”. In order to better promote President Xi’s significant statement to international partners and discuss how to strengthen cooperation to promote the green and low-carbon development of the BRI energy sector, BRIGC held the Dialogue on Developing Green and Low-Carbon Energy via Belt and Road Initiative on September 29, 2021, in a hybrid manner.



Mr. Zhao Yingmin, Convener of the BRIGC Advisory Committee and Vice Minister of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of China (MEE), and Mr. Erik Solheim, Convener of the BRIGC Advisory Committee and Senior Advisor of World Resources Institute (WRI), attended the meeting and delivered speeches. The meeting focused on the optimization of the green development of the BRI, market-driven innovation and other related topics. Mr. Zou Ji, advisor of the BRIGC Advisory Committee and CEO and President of the Energy Foundation China, and Mr. James Thornton, advisor of the BRIGC Advisory Committee and CEO of ClientEarth made leading speeches. Guests from the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Energy Foundation, the ClientEarth, the European Climate Foundation, the Environmental Defense Fund, Tufts University, Chatham House, and PowerChina International Group Limited attended the conference and made speeches.

The conference was co-chaired by Ms. Zhou Guomei, Director General of the Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center (FECO), Ministry of Ecology and Environment of China (MEE); Mr. Dimitri de Boer, Chief Representative, ClientEarth China Office; Mr. Li Yonghong, Deputy Director General of FECO, MEE. Key remarks are as follows:

Mr. Zhao Yingmin, Convener of the BRIGC Advisory Committee and Vice Minister of MEE

“China will step up support for other developing countries in developing green and low-carbon energy and will not build new coal-fired power projects abroad”, which has received positive reactions from the international community and injected new momentum into global climate change governance. Promoting a global green and low-carbon energy transition is a key component of climate change mitigation and adaptation, especially for China and many developing countries, only through access to affordable, renewable and sustainable clean energy can we truly reverse our dependence on fossil energy. We look forward to the BRIGC’s Chinese and international partners, experts and scholars to further increase their research on the green and low-carbon energy transition in the BRI, and to put forward more policy recommendations.

Mr. Erik Solheim, Convener of the BRIGC Advisory Committee and Senior Advisor of WRI

The discussion of BRI shall be prioritized in global agendas and international conferences in a just and fair manner. We shall strengthen policy dialogues with participating countries, actively engage the private sector to drive changes, strengthen cooperation with partners, leverage the role of BRIGC as platforms, focus on equitable transformation to ensure a positive, fair and just transition from a brown economy to a green economy.

Session 1 Developing Green and Low-Carbon Energy in Developing Countries: Optimizing the Green Paths

Mr. Zou Ji, Advisor of the BRIGC Advisory Committee and CEO and President of the Energy Foundation China

We shall keep focusing on the planning and mechanism for coal phase-out in developing countries, integrate the promotion of achieving SDG7 (affordable clean energy) and SDG13 (climate action) goals, and establish a round-table dialogue mechanism in Southeast Asia, South Asia and other regions where coal power is concentrated to explore the coal phase-out mechanism and programme with clear targets.

Ms. Laurence Tubiana, CEO of the European Climate Foundation (ECF)

The transition from coal power to clean energy and the vigorous development of renewable energy should be main tasks of all nations. BRI can act as a clear signal to all participating developing countries, and help them align domestic policies with international directions and realize energy transition.

Mr. Liu Hongpeng, Director of the Energy Division of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

To promote the development of low-carbon energy and optimization of green paths in developing countries, my recommendations are as follows:

First, synergies between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement, green and low-carbon development should be achieved. Second, it is important to recognize that energy transition is crucial to green and low-carbon development. Third, optimizing green paths requires financial and investment support, and domestic financial resources shall be better utilized to promote environmental goals.

Mr. Rishikesh Bhandary, Postdoctoral Scholar, Climate Policy Lab, Tufts University

China's announcement to withdraw from new coal-fired power projects abroad is a historic moment for both China and the world, which is significant to the global response to climate change. It is important to focus on the way to drive large-scale investments to renewable energy and the deployment of power grids in countries where investments are made.

Session 2 Developing Green and Low-Carbon Energy in Developing Countries: Pursuing Market-Driven Innovation

Mr. James Thornton, Advisor of the BRIGC Advisory Committee and CEO of ClientEarth

The construction of BRI projects shall focus on topics of biodiversity, effective environmental management of overseas projects, disclosure of environmental information to ensure public participation. Enterprises should strengthen the environmental impact assessment of overseas projects, take unified actions, and consider biodiversity impacts in the development of BRI projects, so as to enhance the trust between China and participating countries and people.

Ms. Bernice Lee, Hoffmann Distinguished Fellow for Sustainability, Research Director—Futures and Chair of the Sustainability Accelerator Advisory Board, Chatham House

China, as a pioneer in green and low-carbon development of energy, shall keep policies updated with the development, including environmental impact assessment throughout all links of the industrial value chain. We hope that countries can learn from each other, seize the golden opportunity of global transformation, innovate the management of carbon assets through market-driven and policy innovation approaches, and jointly explore effective paths for green and low-carbon development of energy.

Mr. Zhang Jianyu, International Coordinator of BRIGC Advisory Committee and Executive President of the BRI Green Development Institute

The report BRI and Carbon Pricing Mechanism released by BRIGC has significant implications for the energy transition of participating countries. China established the world's largest carbon market on July 16, 2021. It is important to not only clarify carbon pricing, but also to build low-carbon transition mechanisms, strengthen environmental governance systems, enhance environmental monitoring capabilities, and achieve win-win international cooperation, throughout the process of building carbon markets.

Mr. Wu Wenhao, Executive Vice President, PowerChina International Group Limited

In order to promote sustainable global economic development, based on the market demand, Chinese energy companies need to promote renewable energy development through market-driven innovation in four areas, including planning first, improving Engineering Procurement Construction (EPC) capabilities, financing innovation and investment.

Symposium on Synergizing BRI Green Development Guidance and GIP

The Symposium on Synergizing Green Development Guidance for BRI Projects and BRI Green Investment Principles cohosted by the BRI International Green Development Coalition (BRIGC), the Institute of Finance and Sustainability (IFS) and ClientEarth, was held on August 30, 2021, in Beijing.

The event was attended and addressed by a stellar panel, including Mr. Erik Solheim, Convener of the BRIGC Advisory Committee and Senior Advisor of the World Resources Institute (WRI); Mr. Rhys Gordon-Jones, Financial and Professional Services Counsellor of British Embassy; Mr. Ma Jun, Advisor of the BRIGC Advisory Committee, Chairman of the Green Finance Committee (GFC) of China Society of Finance and Banking and President of IFS; Mr. Ye Yanfei, Counsel (DG Level) of the Policy Research Bureau at the China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission (CBIRC); Mr. Li Yonghong, Deputy Director General of the Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center (FECO), Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE); Mr. Lian Jun, Counselor (Director-level), Department of Environmental Impact Assessment and Emission Management, MEE; Ms. Yin Hong, Deputy Director of the Modern Finance Research Institute of Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC); Ms. Zhang Xiang, Secretary General of China International Contractors Association (CHINCA) and Mr. Dimitri de Boer, Chief Representative of ClientEarth China.



The symposium also attracted more than 40 representatives from around 20 Chinese and international institutions, including the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation (CAITEC), the Belt and Road Innovation and Development Center at the China Development Bank, the Belt and Road Financial Research Institute at the Export-Import Bank of China, Bank of China, China International Capital Corporation (CICC), PICC Reinsurance Co., Ltd., Fudan University, UK Pact, WRI, the Climate Bonds Initiative and the International Council on Clean Transportation, etc.

Mr. Erik Solheim pointed out in his remarks that green finance is the key to green transformation. The Green Development Guidance (GDG) for BRI Projects and the Green Investment Principles (GIP) for the Belt and Road Initiative provide powerful and innovative tools to boost green investment and financing. He looked forward to seeing both inject greater momentum into green transformation.

Mr. Rhys Gordon-Jones said that China and the UK had a lot to cooperate in areas such as green investment classification standards and tools. Such cooperation could produce tangible results to inform the upcoming 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) and contribute to the global fight against climate change.

Mr. Ma Jun suggested that the governments play a guiding role to further clarify what "green" and "brown" investments are with robust standards, strengthen the awareness of Chinese financial institutions on environmental and climate risk management, and leverage the potential of BRIGC and GIP to improve environmental governance.

Mr. Li Yonghong said that the cooperation between the environmental and the financial sector in promoting green BRI investment and financing should be strengthened, and synergy should be formed by aligning the studies on green development guidelines with existing green investment and financing tools to work out solutions to climate and environmental crisis.

Experts at the meeting then discussed the policy guidance and demand as well as the challenges from greening of BRI projects, and the synergy of green investment and financing tools and standards.

Mr. Ye Yanfei analyzed the key areas for synergizing green investment and financing tools and emphasized the importance of developing standardized and differentiated green assessment tools, as well as strengthening government regulations and guidance.

Ms. Mao Xiaojing, Director of the Institute of West Asian and African Studies at the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation of MOFCOM, highlighted the significance of green investment by taking investment in Africa as an example and combing over the evolution of related policies and the prospect.

Mr. Wu Zhifeng, Office Director of the Belt and Road Innovation and Development Center of China Development Bank, made a few suggestions on issues such as how to bring in more partners, broaden the scope of green development cooperation and ramp up green investment etc.

Ms. Li Xiaowei, Deputy Director of the Belt and Road Financial Research Institute at the Export-Import Bank of China pointed out the transitional challenges facing financial institutions and offered suggestions to rise to these challenges in the context of global carbon neutrality.

Ms. Yin Hong provided valuable advice on establishing a policy and institutional framework, strengthening cooperation on green and low-carbon technologies, and promoting global financial regulatory cooperation.

Mr. Christoph Nedopil, Associate Professor of FISF Fudan University went through the similarities and differences between GDG and GIP in terms of the core concepts, application and whole process management, and proposed several steps to deepen the cooperation.

Ms. Zhang Xiang voiced from the perspective of industry associations the needs of businesses "going global" and suggested accelerating the integration and mutual recognition of standards.

Representatives from BRIGC and BIFS briefed the participants on the progress of GDG and GIP.

The symposium has contributed to the alignment between the environmental and the financial sectors in terms of policies related to green finance and environmental and climate management, forming a consensus on the green and low-carbon development of BRI finance and investment. The event proves to be successful, for it has paved the way for the upcoming green financial tools and standards that are more implementable, and lent support for financial institutions and enterprises in transition.

Belt and Road Seminar on Green and Low Carbon Transition Held in Beijing

On August 27, 2021, the Belt and Road Seminar on Green and Low Carbon Transition jointly organized by BRI International Green Development Coalition (BRIGC) and the Energy Foundation was held in Beijing. BRIGC and the Energy Foundation will work together to promote the development of green Silk Road and enhance cooperation in green and low-carbon transition in BRI participating countries, emission reduction of atmospheric pollutants and GHGs, environmental data analysis and policy studies and experience sharing. It is the first seminar on green and low-carbon transition in Southeast Asia held by the two sides under the framework of BRI.



The seminar aims to analyze the challenges and key issues facing the green and low-carbon transition and carbon neutrality vision of Southeast Asian countries and explore and identify the potential opportunities for cooperation between China and Southeast Asian countries under the Belt and Road Initiative. Over 30 representatives from UN-ESCAP, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Thailand, ASEAN Center for Energy, China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission, National Center for Climate Change Strategy and International Cooperation, Institute of Science and Development of CAS, Power China Intl, and State Power Investment Cooperation Limited, attended the meeting.

In-depth discussions were carried out on "low-carbon investment and green and low-carbon transition in Southeast Asia".

Mr. Zou Ji (Advisor of the BRIGC Advisory Committee, CEO & President of Energy Foundation China): As the largest trade partner for each other, China and ASEAN are working together to promote the implementation of the carbon reduction commitment to the Paris Agreement. The two sides have a lot in common in terms of the orientation and path of development. With the green and low-carbon transition of the energy sector becoming a global trend, balancing the relation between energy supply, GHGs emission reduction and air quality improvement in Southeast Asian countries is of great significance to achieving "access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all" (SDG 7). It is expected that BRIGC and the Energy Foundation could work together to contribute to the vision.

Mr. Li Yonghong (Deputy Director General of FECO, MEE): Promoting post-pandemic green recovery and green and low-carbon sustainable development has become a global consensus. As a key area for building the Belt and Road, Southeast Asia has great potential for promoting the green and low-carbon transition of the energy sector. However, challenges still exist. Therefore, with countries around the world taking the initiative to put "carbon peaking" and

“carbon neutrality” on the agenda, it is necessary to further promote policy alignment in low-carbon transition strategies, enhance information sharing and capacity building in green and low-carbon development, and give full play to the role of green finance in promoting cooperation in green and low-carbon investment and financing. It is suggested that we further analyze the demand of Southeast Asian countries in green and low-carbon transition in energy, power and infrastructure and give priority to green investment projects to effectively support green and low-carbon transition in Southeast Asia.

Mr. Ye Yanfei (Counsel (DG level) of Policy Research Bureau, China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission): Southeast Asian countries are important partners in the development of BRI with huge potential for pursuing green and low-carbon development. Therefore, it is important for Southeast Asia to make full use of its geopolitical and resource advantage and seize the opportunities of rapid industrialization and urbanization to promote green and low-carbon transition. The following measures could be taken. First, avoiding carbon lock-in effect through building new low-carbon infrastructure projects to reduce the cost of transition; second, promoting cooperation on a strategic level to identify “carbon neutrality” goals and roadmaps; third, enhancing cooperation in data infrastructure to improve the effectiveness of data on carbon emission; fourth, strengthening cooperation in green finance to provide financial support for green transition with the development and utilization of renewable energy resources as the priority area, and make full use of the pricing and taxation mechanism to encourage consumption of renewable energy.

Mr. Liu Hongpeng (Director of Energy Division, UN-ESCAP): Southeast Asian countries have developed comprehensive plans for energy development, carried out in-depth research on energy transition and has been engaging in close cooperation with the international community, laying the groundwork for cooperation in the green and low-carbon transition of the energy sector. It is suggested we fully motivate “ASEAN Plus Three”, Lancang-Mekong and other cooperation mechanisms and take the opportunity of Indonesia’s G20 rotating presidency in 2022 to strengthen policy, technology and financial support for energy transition in Southeast Asia. It is necessary to promote the establishment of sustainable “stable cooperation partnership” under the framework of BRI to enhance cooperation between China and Southeast Asian countries in the green and low-carbon transition of the energy sector. Besides, it is also important to ensure the implementation of related projects.

Mr. Li Junfeng (First Director of National Center for Climate Change Strategy and International Cooperation (NCSC), Executive Director of China Energy Research Society (CERS)): carbon peaking and carbon neutrality are milestones in human history that could only be achieved with innovation, development and transition. Countries and businesses that take the lead to make changes will benefit the most. Therefore, both developed and developing countries, including China should share experience and best practices in low-carbon development to help ASEAN countries to make full use of their resource endowments to realize carbon neutrality as early as possible and urge developed countries to make greater efforts to facilitate the realization of climate goals around the world.

Mr. Andy Tirta (Manager of Energy Modelling and Policy Planning, ASEAN Center for Energy): since the approval of *2016-2025 ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC)* in 2015, ASEAN member states have established an extensive Southeast Asia energy cooperation network with the development of regional power grid and natural gas pipes, energy technology and energy policies as the priority area. According to mid and long-term prediction, from 2018 to 2040, ASEAN countries need a total investment of 486-584 billion USD for renewable energy production capacity expansion, primarily for clean energy technology development. Therefore, investment is still the key to promoting green and low-carbon transition. Andy Tirta also shared the latest progress of ASEAN energy cooperation.

Mr. Guo Yu (Deputy Division Chief, Dept. of International Business, State Power Investment Corporation Limited): With the technological and cost advantage of new energy becoming increasingly apparent, Southeast Asian countries are showing huge potential for attracting investment in renewable energy. ASEAN member states need to identify their own low-carbon transition pathways according to their reality and needs. Meanwhile, governments should make full use of bilateral and unilateral mechanisms to guide businesses to engage in related projects and pool in resources from all sides to make contributions to low-carbon transition in Southeast Asia. He also shared the clean energy projects of State Power Investment Corporation Limited in Southeast Asia and elaborated on the policy of key countries with strong willingness for transition for investment in the energy sector.

Mr. Cui Xu (Deputy General Manager, New Energy and Power Division, Power China Intl.): Several measures could be taken to promote the cooperation between China and ASEAN member states in the green and low-carbon transition of the energy section. First, making full use of China’s advantage in the new energy sector, especially in wind power, PV power and storage battery to promote investment in green and low-carbon projects in developing countries and effectively address climate change; second, promoting cooperation with third parties, encouraging developing countries to engage in international cooperation in renewable energy, and creating a favorable external environment; third, developing favorable green financing policies for overseas energy projects, encouraging financial, investment, construction and equipment companies to go global and cope with risks and challenges in the international market together, and establishing a sound and effective communication mechanism.

Webinar on Green and Low-Carbon Development in ASEAN Member States within BRI Held in Beijing

On September 28, 2021, Webinar on Green and Low-Carbon Development in ASEAN Member States within BRI was held by BRI International Green Development Coalition (BRIGC) in Beijing. The webinar is a sub-event of the program on the “Identification of Opportunities and Key Issues in the Green and Low-Carbon Transition of ASEAN Member States” jointly carried out by BRIGC and Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). The webinar aims to facilitate communication and exchange, and discuss and identify priority areas and key issues for China-ASEAN cooperation in green and low-carbon development.

Li Yonghong, Deputy Director-General of FECO, MEE, and Zhang Jieqing, Country Director of NRDC China, attended and addressed the webinar. Zhang Xiaohua, Chief Representative of ClimateWorks Foundation Beijing Office, gave closing remarks. More than 30 representatives from ASEAN Center for Energy, Institute for Essential Services Reform (IESR) of Indonesia, Green Innovation and Development Center (GreenID) of Vietnam, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Conservation of Myanmar, Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment of Singapore, CICC Global Institute, and China Electric Power Planning and Engineering Institute (EPPEI) attended the webinar.



Accelerating green and low-carbon transition is a priority task in promoting green development along the Belt and Road. According to Li Yonghong, with realizing low-carbon and sustainable development having become a global consensus, the green development of BRI will create strong momentum for the sustainable development of China and ASEAN member states. Zhang Jieqing noted that international cooperation under the framework of green Belt and Road could effectively facilitate green and low-carbon transition of the economy, the society and the industrial sectors

in ASEAN member states and accelerate the decoupling of economic growth and carbon emission.

Guests shared ideas on topics such as the green and low-carbon transition in ASEAN member states and China-ASEAN cooperation in green development. Representatives from CICC Global Institute, EPPEI and IESR of Indonesia analyzed priority areas, key issues, stakeholders and potential for China-ASEAN cooperation in green development. Representatives from ASEAN Center for Energy and GreenID of Vietnam analyzed the prospect and major challenges for green energy development in the region based on development plans and policies for the energy sector. Representative of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Conservation of Myanmar introduced the priority areas, goals and visions of Myanmar’s green and low-carbon development policies and strategies, as well as the priority areas for realizing NDCs. In the closing remarks, Zhang Xiaohua pointed out that with similar patterns for economic and social development and consensus on green and low-carbon development, Asian countries have huge potential for international cooperation. China supports ASEAN member states to develop renewable energy, which will bring new opportunities for green investment.

Representatives agreed that China’s decision to stop the construction of new overseas coal-fired power projects is an important move to promote global actions in addressing climate change. It is expected that China and ASEAN could further enhance communication and exchange in green investment, green technologies, green energy, and green infrastructure under the framework of BRI to effectively promote green, low-carbon and sustainable development in the ASEAN region.

International Seminar on Environmental Standards among BRI Countries Held in Beijing

On August 26, 2021, BRI International Green Development Coalition (BRIGC) and ClientEarth jointly held International Seminar on Environmental Standards among BRI Countries. The seminar aims to share ecological and environmental laws, regulations and policy standards in BRI countries and promote the alignment of standards with BRI participating countries.

Li Yonghong, Deputy Director General of FECO, MEE; and Dimitri de Boer, Chief Representative of ClientEarth China, attended and addressed the seminar. More than 20 representatives from the Ministry of Environment and Forestry of the Republic of Indonesia, Ministry of Environment and Forestry of Kenya, University of Rwanda, Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences, China National Institute of Standardization (CNIS), China University of Political Science and Law, China Railway Construction Corporation, Automotive Data of China Co., Ltd, and other government departments, research institutions and businesses at home and abroad, attended the seminar.

Promoting the “connectivity” of standards is an important component of promoting the high-quality development of BRI. Li Yonghong pointed out that we should continue to give full play to the role of BRIGC as an international cooperation platform to achieve the high-quality, sustainable development of the Belt and Road that benefits more people. Dimitri de Boer noted that China adopts high standards in building the Belt and Road and promotes the implementation of these standards through international exchange and cooperation.



Representatives exchanged ideas on the development of ecological and environmental standards, the implementation of environmental laws and regulations, and comparison of sectoral environmental standards. Representatives from the Ministry of Environment and Forestry of the Republic of Indonesia, Ministry of Environment and Forestry of Kenya, Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences, and China National Institute of Standardization (CNIS) introduced ecological and environmental laws and regulations, ecological and environmental standards and the system of standards for the environmental sector in their own countries. Honorary Dean of University of Rwanda introduced the laws and regulations on environmental protection for key industries for development. Prof. Wang Canfa from China University of Political Science and Law introduced the differences in the ecological and environmental standards system among BRI participating countries and proposed recommendations on promoting the alignment of standards. Representatives from China Railway Construction Corporation and Automotive Data of China Co., Ltd. introduced the application of environmental standards in the development of overseas projects and the carbon emission standards for the automobile industry in BRI participating countries.

The seminar identified the opportunities and challenges of improving the ecological and environmental standards systems in BRI participating countries and discussed key areas and pathways for promoting BRI cooperation on ecological and environmental standards, establishing a platform for environmental policy exchange and alignment of ecological and environmental standards among BRI participating countries.

UPCOMING

Roundtable on BRI Green Development and BRIGC Policy Studies Release 2021 to be Held

Theme: Heading towards Carbon Neutrality via Low-Carbon and Innovative Development

Co-Hosted by: Ministry of Ecology and Environment of P. R. China

Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment of Singapore

Organized by: BRI International Green Development Coalition (BRIGC)

Assisted by: Energy Foundation(EF)

Date: 15:00, October 26, 2021 (Tuesday, GMT+8)

A Roundtable on BRI Green Development and BRIGC Policy Studies Release 2021 will be held on October 26, 2021 (GMT +8) to share China's specific actions and achievements of building Green Silk Road, facilitate the policy alignment and pragmatic cooperation with BRI participant countries, and promote international consensus and joint actions on green and low-carbon development. The event is co-hosted by the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of P. R. China (MEE) and the Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment of Singapore (MSE), and organized by BRIGC.

Themed with "Heading towards Carbon Neutrality via Low-Carbon and Innovative Development", the Roundtable on BRI Green Development aims to discuss how BRI low-carbon and innovative development can better contribute to a carbon-neutral future. The BRIGC Policy Studies Release 2021 will issue the research reports produced by a series of policy studies initiated by the BRIGC in 2021.

The event will be held in a hybrid form, with the on-site activity at the Beijing Hotel in Beijing of China, an on-line meeting platform, and a Chinese and English live stream on selected major media in China.

Live:



yangshipin
Livestream in Chinese



China Daily
Livestream in English

PROGRESS OF THE THEMATIC PARTNERSHIPS

Improvement of Environmental Quality and Green Cities

BRETETC (Shenzhen) signed Framework Agreement on Strategic Cooperation with Power China Resources Ltd. (PCR)



To expand overseas business operations and promote cooperation and exchange, Belt and Road Environmental Technology Exchange and Transfer Center (Shenzhen) (BRETETC for short) held an event to promote overseas project matchmaking on August 24, 2021. During the event, BRETETC signed a framework agreement on strategic cooperation with Power China Resources Ltd. (PCR for short). Upholding the principles of "sharing resources to achieve win-win cooperation", the two sides will engage in extensive and close cooperation in environmental technology exchange and

transfer, green production capacity cooperation and overseas green investment to jointly improve the competitiveness and influence of both sides.

(Source: Thematic Partnership on Improvement of Environmental Quality and Green Cities)

Knowledge Hub for South-South Cooperation on Climate Change Work Group Meeting Held in Beijing

On September 15, 2021, Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center (FECO) of MEE held the Knowledge Hub for South-South Cooperation on Climate Change Work Group Meeting in Beijing. Representatives from UNEP, UNDP, UNICEF, strategic partners and related international organizations attended the meeting. Representatives of Department of Climate Change and Department of International Cooperation of MEE attended and addressed the meeting.



Representatives from international organizations and research institutions pointed out that Knowledge Hub for South-South Cooperation on Climate Change will be an important channel for promoting South-South cooperation on climate change and experience and information sharing in ecological and environmental protection. Representatives attending the meeting also expressed the willingness to share best practices and experience in environmental cooperation and addressing climate change, and to actively engage in and support cooperation projects under the framework of the Knowledge Hub.

(Source: Thematic Partnership on South-South Environmental Cooperation and SDGs Capacity Building)

VIEWS

Mr. Erik Solheim, Convener of the BRIGC Advisory Committee: China's Decision to Stop Building New Coal-fired Power Projects Abroad Creates New Momentum for Global Action in Addressing Climate Change



China's announcement on quitting overseas coal power projects at last month's UN General Assembly was a shot in the arm for the world's collective climate action. In the lead-up to the announcement, China released its "Green Development Guidance for Overseas Investment and Cooperation" emphasizing environmental safeguards throughout the process of overseas investment. As climate and nature agendas are closely linked, the decision will no doubt bring great benefits to the world's biodiversity conservation efforts. The decision will drive environment-friendly technologies along the Belt and Road. We will see major Chinese overseas investment in solar and wind power, green hydrogen and electric mobility. This is good news indeed, for both the climate and nature.

(Source: China Watch)

Prof. Chen Yongjun, Professor of Renmin Business School: Upholding Sustainable Development Concepts and Promoting Joint Efforts in Building Green Belt and Road

The high-quality development of the Belt and Road could only be realized with the support of sustainable development concepts. We need to develop high-quality projects that deliver long-term benefits to local society, economy and environment. Promoting joint efforts in building green Belt and Road with sustainable development concepts is of great significance to China in improving national image, avoiding environmental risks in the process of “going global” and ensure the high-quality development of the Belt and Road.

(Source: Belt and Road Portal)



Dr. Christoph B. NEDOPIL WANG, Associate Professor of Economics (Practice-Track), Director of the Green Finance and Development Center at Fanhai International School of Finance, Fudan University: China's Decision to Stop Building New Coal-fired Power Projects Abroad is an Important Move in Promoting Global Efforts in Addressing Climate Change



China announced the decision to stop building new coal-fired power projects abroad and support the development of renewable energy in emerging markets. This is an important move in promoting global efforts in addressing climate change.

China's overseas investment plays a major role in promoting energy and infrastructure around the world. After stopping building new coal-fired power projects abroad, China will play a bigger role in the provision of renewable and low-carbon energy and the utilization of new technologies worldwide. China could seize the opportunity to make full use of its technological advantage in solar and wind power development and experience in developing and operating energy projects in BRI participating countries to promote green investment abroad. Besides,

China has also made huge progress in the development of standards, including the *Green Development Guidance on BRI Projects Baseline Study Report* released in December, 2020.

(Source: The Paper)



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://en.brigc.net/>

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