



BRI GREEN REVIEW

Secretariat of BRI International Green Development Coalition



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Address at the Opening of the High-Level Segment of Part II of the 15th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity

H. E. Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China

15 December 2022

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Friends,
Good morning.

On behalf of the Chinese government and people, and also in my own name, I would like to extend warm congratulations to the convening of today's meeting.

Humanity lives in a community with a shared future. Be it in overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic, or in enhancing biodiversity protection and achieving sustainable development globally, solidarity and cooperation is the only effective way to address global challenges. A sound ecosystem is essential for the prosperity of civilization. We must work together to promote harmonious co-existence between man and Nature, build a community of all life on the Earth, and create a clean and beautiful world for us all.

– We need to build global consensus on biodiversity protection, jointly work for the conclusion of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, and identify targets and pathways for global biodiversity protection.

– We need to push forward the global process of biodiversity protection, turn ambitions into action, support developing countries in capacity-building, and coordinate efforts to address climate change, biodiversity loss and other global challenges.

– We need to promote green development through biodiversity protection, speed up the green transition of development modes and lifestyle, and leverage the Global Development Initiative (GDI) to deliver greater benefits to people of all countries.

– We need to uphold a fair and equitable global order on biodiversity protection, firmly defend true multilateralism, firmly support the UN-centered international system and the international order underpinned by international law, and form strong synergy for protecting the Earth, our common homeland.

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Friends,

China has made active efforts to promote ecological progress and biodiversity protection. We have continuously strengthened biodiversity mainstreaming, applied a system of ecological conservation red lines, established a protected areas system with national parks as the mainstay, carried out major biodiversity protection projects, and conducted most stringent enforcement and supervision. A large number of rare and endangered species have been placed under effective protection, and the diversity, stability and sustainability of the ecosystem have kept improving. We have found a path of biodiversity protection with Chinese characteristics.

Going forward, China will continue to advance ecological progress, and plan its development in the context of promoting harmonious co-existence between man and Nature. We will respond to the Action Plan for the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, and launch a large number of key projects on biodiversity protection and restoration. We will deepen international exchanges and cooperation, and support international forums on biodiversity. We will do our best to provide support and assistance to fellow developing countries through the BRI International Green Development Coalition (BRIGC) and the Kunming Biodiversity Fund, so as to elevate global biodiversity governance to a new height.

As an old Chinese saying goes, "All living things should flourish without harming each other; all ways of life should thrive without hindering each other." Let us work together to open a new chapter in building a community of all life on the Earth and create a bright future of harmonious co-existence between man and Nature.

Thank you.

(Source: Xinhua News Agency)

Spokesperson for the 20th National Congress of the CPC: BRI has Become a Popular International Public Good

The 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) was opened at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing at 10 a.m., October 16, 2022. The spokesperson for the 20th CPC National Congress held a press conference at the Great Hall of the People in the afternoon of Oct. 15, 2022.

Journalist from Uzbek newspaper Narodnoe Slovo proposed a question: The National Congress of the CPC will be held soon. At the Congress, the main tasks of China for the next five years will be outlined. How will the Belt and Road Initiative develop in the next five years? What will be planned by China?

In response, Mr. Sun Yeli, spokesperson for the 20th National Congress of the CPC said, the Silk Road was opened by our ancestors through great efforts for the purposes of trade and cultural interactions. History inspires the present. Proposed by General Secretary Xi Jinping, the BRI has been warmly received and participated in by the international community. Over the past nine years, China has signed BRI cooperation documents with over 140 countries and more than 30 international organizations. Related ideas and proposals for cooperation have been written into important documents of the UN and multiple international organizations. The BRI has become a popular international public good and an important platform for building a community with a shared future for mankind.

According to Mr. Sun, the BRI follows the principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits, advancing policy, infrastructure, trade, financial and people-to-people connectivity with partner countries. We have explored new paths for joint development, achieved win-win cooperation and contributed a new driving force for global economic growth. By this June, China's trade in goods with BRI partner countries totaled around \$12 trillion. A large number of practical cooperation projects have been implemented, contributing to local economic development and improvement of people's livelihoods. More than 100 countries have participated in the first and second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, reaching extensive consensus on jointly building the BRI and global partnerships on connectivity. Together we have drawn the blueprint of cooperation for high-quality development of the BRI and for common prosperity of all countries.

"Standing at the new starting point, we will continue to follow the principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits, champion the philosophy of open, green and clean cooperation, and aim to achieve high-standard, sustainable and people-centered development. We will strive for higher standard cooperation, better deliverables from inputs, higher-quality supply and stronger resilience for development. As such, we will continue to advance the high-quality development of BRI cooperation", said Mr. Sun Yeli.

(Source: China News)

Press Conference for the 20th CPC National Congress: Working Together for Global Ecological Progress and Promoting the Development of a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind

The Press Center for the 20th CPC National Congress held the fifth press conference at 10 a.m., October 21, 2022. Mr. Zhai Qing, member of the Leading Party Members Group and Vice Minister of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE), briefed on the topic of "building a beautiful China where humanity and nature co-exist in harmony".

Journalist from CRI proposed a question: In recent years, what has been done by the MEE in working together for global ecological progress and promoting the development of a community with a shared future for mankind? What achievements have been made? In addition, what measures will be taken next?

Mr. Zhai Qing responded: From the perspective of building a community with a shared future, General Secretary Xi Jinping has proposed jointly building a clean and beautiful world and promoting sustainable global development. Last year, he put forth the Global Development Initiative (GDI), calling for efforts to achieve stronger, greener, and healthier global development, which has provided the fundamental basis and a guidance for us to actively engage in global environmental governance.

As an important participant, contributor and trailblazer in global ecological conservation, we have been firmly committed to putting multilateralism into action and promoting a fair and equitable system of global environmental governance for win-win cooperation, making contributions to the sustainable development of humanity.

First, we have made positive progress in developing the green Belt and Road. We have proposed and established the BRI International Green Development Coalition (BRIGC). We have strengthened policy dialogue, joint research and capacity building with BRI participating countries, and incorporated the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development into the joint development of the BRI. More than 150 cooperation partners from over 40 countries have joined the coalition. We have launched the BRI Environmental Big Data Platform, enhancing innovation and exchanges of ecological and environmental protection technologies. We have implemented the Green Silk Road Envoys Program and trained 3,000 (person-time) environmental officials, experts, and scholars from over 120 countries. In this way we aim to build consensus on and form synergy for promoting green development.

Second, we have deeply engaged in global environmental governance. We have consistently promoted the full and effective implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement. General Secretary Xi Jinping has solemnly announced China's goal of striving to peak carbon dioxide emissions before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060. We have strongly supported developing countries' green and low-carbon energy transition and promised not to develop new coal-fired power generation projects overseas. We have accepted the *Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol* and tightened regulations over the emission of non-carbon dioxide greenhouse gases.

We have actively implemented the Convention on Biological Diversity and its protocol. Over the past decade, the implementation of the goals of biodiversity protection in China has been better than the global average. We successfully held the first phase of the 15th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the *United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity* (COP15) and issued the *Kunming Declaration*. President Xi Jinping announced at the meeting that China would take the lead by investing 1.5 billion yuan and establish a Kunming Biodiversity Fund to support biodiversity protection in developing countries. We have actively charted the course for global biodiversity governance by giving a full play to the role of China as the Presidency of COP15.

Third, we have carried out practical bilateral and multilateral environmental cooperation. We have established the China-EU High-Level Environment and Climate Dialogue and actively developed exchange and dialogue mechanisms, including the Environmental Ministers' Meeting of the Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the ASEAN-China Environmental Cooperation Forum. We have strengthened South-South cooperation and cooperation with neighboring countries and supported projects and actions in biodiversity conservation, green economy, the management of chemicals and the implementation of international conventions. As things stand now, these projects and activities have yielded outstanding results. As of June 2022, we have signed 43 cooperation documents on climate change with 38 developing countries. We have helped relevant countries build capacity against climate change by providing them with goods and materials in response to climate change, such as weather satellites, photovoltaic power systems and new energy vehicles.

Next, we will continue to thoroughly implement Xi Jinping Thought on Ecological Civilization and work with all parties to respond to global environmental challenges, contributing China's strengths to building a community with a shared future for mankind.

(Source: Xinhua News Agency)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China: Good Progress has been Made with the Implementation of BRI Infrastructure Projects

On November 29, 2022, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian pointed out that infrastructure, the cornerstone of connectivity, is a priority area of Belt and Road cooperation. With concerted efforts, good progress has been made with the implementation of BRI infrastructure projects. China stands ready to work with all sides for wider and more convenient connectivity that will benefit the people of all countries.

At the regular press conference on November 29, 2022, a journalist from Beijing Daily asked: According to reports, a ceremony was held recently to mark the completion of the south tube of the Karnaphuli tunnel built and implemented by Chinese enterprises in Bangladesh. It is the first underwater tunnel in Bangladesh and South Asia. What's China's comment?

Mr. Zhao Lijian said, the completion of this project, an important link of the Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar Economic Corridor, is yet another major outcome of Belt and Road cooperation between China and its neighboring countries. The project is important for improving local transportation and the Asian network of roads and to boosting connectivity between Bangladesh and its neighboring countries. With the completion of the tunnel, a car ride between the airport and the industrial park at the port of Chittagong will be slashed from four hours to only 20 minutes.

Infrastructure, the bedrock of connectivity, is a priority area of Belt and Road cooperation. With concerted efforts, good progress has been made with the implementation of BRI infrastructure projects. Croatia's Peljesac Bridge built by a Chinese company has seen safe passage of over one million cars since its inauguration in July this year. The bridge functions well and serves as a bridge of cooperation, development and friendship between China and Croatia.

China stands ready to work with all sides for greater synergy between the BRI and countries' development strategies and regional cooperation initiatives to jointly advance infrastructure development. Such joint efforts are a win-win cooperation that will lead to faster, wider connectivity and benefit the people of all countries.

(Source: Xinhua News Agency)

UN Report: BRIGC can Play an Important Part in Facilitating Green Development and Addressing Environmental and Climate Challenges

The Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) of the United Nations Secretariat, jointly with the Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China, launched the *"Partnering for a Brighter Shared Future: Progress Report on the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in Support of the United Nations 2030 Agenda"* in the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

H.E. Amb. Mr. Zhang Jun, the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations said that BRI is a contribution of Chinese wisdom and Chinese solutions to the implementation of UN 2030 Agenda. It is highly compatible with the Agenda in terms of concepts, objectives and initiatives, and will provide strong support and inject strong impetus for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. Zhang said, the Belt and Road is a path of solidarity to build global partnerships, a path of win-win cooperation to strengthen connectivity, and a path of hope to promote global sustainable development. It has become the world's largest international cooperation platform covering a wide range of regions. Promoting BRI is conducive to international cooperation in meeting challenges. It is the right way to address both symptoms and root causes. BRI meets the needs of the times, the expectations of people of all countries and serves the common interests of all countries. BRI cooperation is not a Chinese solo, but a symphony in which all countries should participate. China looks forward to working with all partners to further enhance cooperation in all areas under the principle of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits, and unswerving promote high-quality development of the BRI. We will make greater contributions to accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and achieving common development for all.

UN Under-Secretary-General of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) Mr. Li Junhua, pointed out in his introduction that the world today faces many challenges and uncertainties. Global partnerships and multilateral cooperation mechanisms established by the BRI effectively promote social and economic transformation in relevant countries. The Report, in responding to the call of the UN Secretary-General Mr. António Guterres, analyzed the role of the BRI in promoting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda with data and facts, and summarized successful cases and experience of countries and UN agencies in participating in Belt and Road cooperation, which will provide insights for developing countries in aligning national development plans with the SDGs and realizing green and sustainable development. It is expected that all sides should work together to practice multilateralism and bring the 2030 Agenda back on track.

Ambassadors and representatives of UN agencies attending the event applauded the releasing of the Report, recognized the role of the BRI in promoting poverty alleviation, economic development and connectivity in participating countries, and expected the BRI to give its full play in promoting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. They are willing to work together with China to advance Belt and Road cooperation, realize common development and embrace a bright future that is shared by all.

The report was sponsored by China-UN Peace and Development Fund. The progress report presents data and country-level experiences under bilateral, trilateral and multilateral BRI cooperation, including through cases studies and project outputs. It further identifies the inherent synergies of the BRI with the 2030 Agenda, and its projects and activities that have been bridging gaps across a number of implementation efforts of SDGs, including policy coordination, trade, financing, and infrastructure connectivity, among others.

In the section "accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through Belt and Road cooperation", the Report proposed to make full use of the Green Silk Road and BRIGC to promote green development and respond to environment and climate challenges. In consideration of need for development of developing countries, it is necessary to mobilize accessible and affordable resources.

(Source: Xinhua News Agency)

China-ASEAN Joint Statement on Strengthening Common and Sustainable Development

We, the People's Republic of China and the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), gathered at the 25th ASEAN-China Summit in Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia, on Nov 11 2022.

RECALLING with satisfaction the celebration of the 30th Anniversary of China-ASEAN Dialogue Relations in 2021 with our significant achievements reflected in the Joint Statement of the ASEAN-China Special Summit to Commemorate the 30th Anniversary of China-ASEAN Dialogue Relations, in particular the establishment of the China-ASEAN Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, which is meaningful, substantive and mutually beneficial;

RECALLING the important documents adopted by the two sides in recent years, including the *China-ASEAN Strategic Partnership Vision 2030*, the *Joint Statement of the China-ASEAN Special Summit to Commemorate the 30th Anniversary of China-ASEAN Dialogue Relations*, the *China-ASEAN Joint Statement on Cooperation in Support of the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework (ACRF)*, and the *China-ASEAN Joint Statement on Enhancing Green and Sustainable Development Cooperation*;

REAFFIRMING the principles, shared values and norms enshrined in the *Charter of the United Nations*, the *ASEAN Charter*, the *Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC)*, the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and the East Asia Summit (EAS) *Declaration on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations (Bali Principles)*, as well as universally recognised principles of international law;

SUPPORTING ASEAN's leading role in the shaping of the regional architecture by promoting closer cooperation through ASEAN-led mechanisms;

NOTING with appreciation the various activities carried out by the two sides under the framework of the ASEAN-China Years of Sustainable Development Cooperation in 2021 and 2022;

RECALLING the statements and visions put forward by China and ASEAN to promote sustainable development in the region, including *ASEAN Community Vision 2025*, the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP) and Belt and Road Initiative (BRI);

ACKNOWLEDGING China's Global Development Initiative (GDI) and appreciating its goal of complementing the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, taking note of China's announcement of new financial measures at the High-level Dialogue on Global Development to promote global development, and of China's initiative to build a peaceful, safe and secure, prosperous, beautiful and amicable home in the region;

RECOGNISING the increasingly complex and cross-cutting challenges the region continues to face, arising from geopolitical shifts, protectionism, complex transnational threats, climate change and rapid technological change, which are exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and its adverse impact on our peoples' livelihoods and well-being, societies and economies;

RECOGNISING the importance of China-ASEAN cooperation in promoting a sound global and regional environment for development, maintaining regional peace, stability and security, sharing experiences and development opportunities in the face of major challenges, while emphasising ASEAN-China cooperation in strengthening common and sustainable development will be conducive to realising the Sustainable Development Goals in the region and beyond;

EMPHASISING the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by upholding people-centered development, and commitment to inclusive growth and building a future of life in harmony with nature, so that no country, no person is left behind;

NOTING the importance of development issues in the international cooperation agenda acknowledging that international development cooperation can better suit local conditions and better address the actual needs of developing countries, and give priority to capacity-building through cooperation, exchanges of best practices and technical assistance, including through ASEAN-led mechanisms;

Hereby agree on the following:

1. Reaffirm commitment to development and give priority to development undertakings, and deepen cooperation through extensive consultation and joint efforts, so as to build a meaningful, substantive and mutually beneficial China-ASEAN Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, for peace, security, prosperity, and sustainable development;
2. Continue to implement the Initiative for ASEAN Integration and the *ACRF*; emphasise the importance of ASEAN unity and centrality in promoting ASEAN's sub-regional development; and recognise the relevance of sub-regional

development, to ASEAN's regional integration and community-building process, especially in narrowing the development gap within ASEAN and between ASEAN and the rest of the world, taking into consideration emerging gaps, challenges, and priorities from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic;

3. Advance cooperation in infrastructure development, accelerate the implementation of the *China-ASEAN Joint Statement on Synergizing the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025 and the BRI*, enhance connectivity between ASEAN and China, facilitate cross-border travel and trade, and promote people-to-people exchanges;

4. Support cooperation in the four priority areas of the AOIP, namely maritime cooperation, connectivity, UN Sustainable Development Goals 2030, and economic and other areas of cooperation; promote mutually beneficial cooperation between the BRI and the AOIP; explore development cooperation with the GDI to complement the realization of *ASEAN Community Vision 2025*, support ASEAN community-building process, and further strengthen existing ASEAN led-mechanisms;

5. Promote cooperation on Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) and digital transformation, including smart manufacturing and green industrialization, jointly explore the building of economic corridors and demonstration zones for international industrial capacity cooperation, welcome interested ASEAN Member States to participate in the building of China-Singapore (Chongqing) Demonstration Initiative on Strategic Connectivity New International Land-Sea Trade Corridor, and jointly enhance regional supply chain connectivity and its resilience;

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8. Strengthen cooperation in the development and application of new and emerging energy technologies, the mobilisation of green investment/financing, capacity building, promote the just transition of energy and upgrading of industrial structures, welcome the proposal to establish the China-ASEAN Clean Energy Cooperation Center (ACCEC), and achieve low-carbon economic development as well as green and sustainable growth;

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13. Take note of China's initiative to set up a special loan for ASEAN and China's common development; encourage the further use of the ASEAN-China Cooperation Fund (ACCF) in promoting practical cooperation; encourage global and regional financial institutions such as the World Bank, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, and the Asian Development Bank to provide more development resources to the region; and

14. Carry out capacity-building and experience-sharing activities between think tanks from ASEAN Member States and China to support policy making, including but not limited to circular economy and sustainable development.

(Source: Xinhua News Agency)

People's Daily: Work Together to Build a Sound Ecological Civilization

Launching large-scale land greening programs with 64 million hectares of forests planted and a forest coverage of 24.02% and steppe vegetation coverage of 50.32%, China has contributed 1/4 of the new forest area in the world in the past ten years. Not long ago, these data from a series of news conferences themed "China in the Past Decade" attracted the attention of all. The rich and successful experience from the development of the ecological civilization in China is playing a greater role in building a clean and beautiful world.

Protecting the ecological environment, addressing climate change and maintaining energy and resource security are common challenges of the whole world. Since the 18th CPC National Congress in 2012, General Secretary Xi Jinping offered a series of important initiatives and proposals for the very purpose of sustainable development. He pointed out that to preserve a sound ecological environment is the shared aspiration of all, and stressed that in the face of environmental challenges, all countries are in a community with destinies linked, and no country can stay immune. He proposed that all members of the international community should work together to build a sound global eco-environment. The Xi Jinping Thought on Ecological Civilization presents China's approach and offers its vision on making joint efforts to build a community of all life on Earth, and a clean and beautiful world for all, highlighting China's characteristics, strategic vision and global significance.

As a Chinese proverb reads, "The going may be tough when one walks alone, but it gets easier when people walk together". In this age of economic globalization, the human society of more than 7 billion people ride on the same giant ship of more than 200 cabins. All passengers must pull together. Only global action, global response and global

cooperation can bring about steady progress in the ecological civilization. Since the 18th CPC National Congress in 2012, under the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Ecological Civilization, China has taken an active part in global environmental governance, and takes its obligations seriously under environment-related treaties concerning climate change and biodiversity protection. China has already become a major participant, contributor, and champion in the development of a global ecological civilization. From calling for the establishment of the BRIGC, to supporting the conclusion, endorsement, and implementation of the *Paris Agreement*, from holding the First Phase of the 15th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the *United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity* (COP 15) and issued the *Kunming Declaration*, to supporting ecological conservation of developing countries, in the past ten years, with concrete green actions, China has injected powerful impetus into strengthening global climate and environmental governance, and has become an important leader of the global environment agenda.

To protect the planet we call home is the common responsibility of mankind. General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out that, “we believe that when the interests of the entire humanity are at stake, China must step forward, take action, and get the job done”. In the past ten years, China has fulfilled its international obligations at high standards, and broke many records in the development of an ecological civilization. China now has both the largest carbon market and the largest clean electric power generation system in the world. China is the world’s largest contributor to the protection of the ozone layer, and is among the countries with the fastest energy intensity reduction in the world. China is the world’s largest developing country with a population of more than 1.4 billion people, and therefore our efforts to build an ecological civilization will cause global impact. In recent years, China has set new goals, scaled up its NDCs, and contributed its part to global environmental governance. For example, China has exceeded the climate action goals committed for the year 2020 two years ahead of schedule, put forth the ambitious carbon peaking and carbon neutrality goals, and taken pragmatic actions towards these goals. China will move from carbon peaking to carbon neutrality in the shortest time span in world history. China not only focuses on protecting its own ecological environment, for the common interests of mankind, it also commits to boosting ecological conservation, demonstrating China’s sense of responsibility as a major country.

To build a better global village, we need to advance global sustainable development, work with all countries to preserve what gives our planet life and embrace green development, and to let people across countries benefit from development outcomes and a sound environment. As a developing country, China not only focuses on its own economic and social development and green transition, but also promotes global low-carbon transformation. The China-Laos Railway was officially up and running last year, its breathtaking views made it an ideal location for many Lao newlyweds to take wedding photos. The designers proposed more than 60 drafts for this railway, and the total length of the routes studied was about 14,000 kilometers. The design avoided protected areas and environmentally sensitive sites, and environmental protection and low carbon development have become the common features of 43 stations along the line. In addition, China and 31 cooperation partners jointly launched the Initiative for Belt and Road Partnership on Green Development, to bring enduring benefits to the people of all BRI participating countries. Mr. John B. Cobb, Jr. who was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, believed that China has brought hope to a sound global eco-environment.

There is only one Earth and one shared future for humanity. In the face of environmental challenges, China takes the initiative and responsibilities to share successful experiences and provide public goods, winning full recognition of the international community and instilling a sense of confidence and strength into the world. On the new journey, with a further understanding of the breadth of vision and the sense of responsibility as a major country reflected in the Xi Jinping Thought on Ecological Civilization, China will stay committed to the vision of a community with a shared future for mankind, deepen engagement in global environmental governance, provide the world with more public goods, and build synergy for global governance on the environment. In this way, China is bound to make greater contribution for creating a clean and beautiful world for all, and bring about steady progress in the ecological conservation of the globe.

(Source: People's Daily)

People's Daily: China and Laos Building Low-Carbon Demonstration Zones

From Vientiane, the capital of Laos, it takes about 30 minutes to drive to Saysettha Development Zone (SDZ). In the SDZ, amid lush tropical plants on both sides of clean and smooth roads, the bright street lamps drew people's attention.

Not long ago, 40 sets of photovoltaic smart street lamps donated by China were installed in the SDZ. According to the plan, a total of 3,000 sets of solar street lamps will be installed in the SDZ. "These street lamps are energy-saving and environment-friendly, and the SDZ is more beautiful now. We often take our children here on weekends, tell them about solar power, and let them understand modern technology and environmental protection", said a resident nearby.

The Low-carbon Demonstration Zone in SDZ is a South-South cooperation project between China and Lao governments in response to climate change. It is one of the 10 Low-carbon Demonstration Zones cooperation projects in developing countries conducted by China. A few days ago, the unveiling ceremony of the Saysettha Low Carbon Demonstration Zone in Vientiane under South-South Cooperation between China and Laos on Climate Change and the delivery ceremony of the NEV project were held via video link, marking a new stage in the development of the low carbon demonstration zone and bringing the cooperation between China and Laos on climate change to a new level. According to relevant agreements, China has donated new energy buses, new energy trucks and other facilities to the SDZ in groups. Statistics show that after the first group of such NEVs was put into use, the local carbon emissions could be reduced by about 1,243 tons every year, equivalent to planting more than 100,000 trees.

"We have mastered the technologies on the daily use, maintenance and troubleshooting of new energy vehicles, and hope to contribute our part to low-carbon transportation in the demonstration zone." A Lao employee said. At the beginning of this year, he and other 22 SDZ employees participated in NEV training. "The Saysettha Low-carbon Demonstration Zone is a model for Laos and China to jointly tackle climate change. We hope to accumulate valuable experience in low-carbon development in Saysettha and replicate it in other regions. " said Mr. Bounkham Vorachit, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of Laos.

In the corner of the comprehensive development zone, dozens of huge oil storage tanks are neatly arranged. They belong to the only oil refining enterprise in Laos— Lao Petroleum & Chemical Co. Ltd (LPC). At the end of 2020, the first phase of the refinery project with an annual capacity of 3 million tons of the LPC was officially put into operation. The project was jointly invested by Chinese and Lao enterprises. It not only changed the current state where Laos relies on import for all of its refined oil products, but also adopted advanced low-carbon production technologies, which greatly reduced carbon emissions. According to the deputy general manager of LPC, the factory built wastewater treatment plants and rainwater collection facilities, so that wastewater can be recycled after purification. In terms of waste gas emission, a new sulfur recovery device has been built in the factory. The device can collect the sulfur contents in waste gas and process them into sulfur, which can be sold as a product, so that other waste gas up to the standard can be discharged.

"Saysettha Low Carbon Demonstration Zone is a good project, which has made great contribution to the development of green economy in Laos and brought tangible benefits to the Lao people. We hope that Laos and China will continue to strengthen cooperation in low-carbon development, further expand the influence of low-carbon projects in Laos and benefit more people. " Mr. Sommad Pholsena, Vice President of the National Assembly of Laos, said that the Lao government hopes to continue to deepen strategic alignment and expand pragmatic cooperation with China in the future, jointly promote the construction of low-carbon demonstration zones, and provide experience for low-carbon development of national comprehensive development zones along the Belt and Road.

(Source: People's Daily)

China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission Issued Green Finance Guidelines for Banking and Insurance Sectors

Green Finance Guidelines for Banking and Insurance Sectors
issued by China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission, China
June 1, 2022

I. General Provisions

Article 1 In order to promote the development of green finance in the banking and insurance industry, actively serve all kinds of economic activities with both environmental and social benefits, better assist in tackling key problems in pollution prevention and control, and orderly promote carbon peak and carbon neutrality, the following Guidelines is formulated in accordance with the *Banking Supervision Law of the People's Republic of China*, *Commercial Bank Law of the People's Republic of China*, *Insurance Law of the People's Republic of China (PRC)* and other laws and regulations.

Article 2 The banking and insurance institutions mentioned in the Guidelines include legally established development banks, policy banks, commercial banks, rural cooperative banks, rural credit cooperatives, insurance group (holding) companies, insurance companies, reinsurance companies and insurance asset management companies in the People's Republic of China.

Green financial management of other banking financial institutions and insurance institutions shall be implemented with reference to these Guidelines.

Article 3 Banking and insurance institutions shall implement the new development concept completely, accurately and comprehensively, promote green finance from a strategic height, increase support for green, low-carbon and circular economy. To guard against environmental, social and governance (ESG) risks, improve their own ESG performance, and promote the overall green transformation of economic and social development.

Article 4 Banking and insurance institutions shall effectively identify, monitor, prevent and control the ESG risks in business activities, pay special attention to the hazards and risks that customers (financiers) and their main contractors and suppliers may bring to the environment and society in the construction, production and business activities due to corporate governance defects and inadequate management. To incorporate ESG requirements into the management process and comprehensive risk management system, strengthen information disclosure and exchange with stakeholders, and improve relevant policies, institutions and process management. Customers that shall be paid major attention mainly include the following four categories:

- (1) Bank credit customers;
- (2) Customers who are insured for environmental, social and governance risks;
- (3) The financier of the insurance fund entity investment project;
- (4) Other customers who should carry out ESG risk management according to laws, regulations or contracts.

Article 5 The Insurance Regulatory Commission of Bank of China (hereinafter referred to as CBIRC) and its dispatched offices shall be responsible for supervising and managing the green financial business activities of banking and insurance institutions according to law.

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IV. Investment and Financing Process Management

Article 18 Banking and insurance institutions shall strengthen due diligence on credit granting and investment, and make clear the contents and key points of due diligence on ESG risks according to the industry and regional characteristics of customers and their projects, so as to ensure that the investigation is comprehensive, in-depth and in detail. When necessary, institutions can seek the support of qualified and independent third parties and relevant authorities.

Article 19 Banking and insurance institutions shall conduct strict compliance examination on the customers to be granted credit and the projects to be invested. To formulate a list of ESG compliance documents and a list of compliance risks according to the characteristics of customers in different industries, examine the compliance, validity and completeness of the documents and related procedures submitted by customers, and confirm that customers have paid enough attention to relevant risk points and put them under effective dynamic control, meeting the substantive compliance requirements.

Article 20 Banking and insurance institutions shall strengthen the management of credit granting and investment approval, and determine reasonable credit granting, investment authority and approval process according to the nature and severity of ESG risks faced by customers. For customers who have serious violations of laws and regulations and major risks in ESG, credit and investment should be strictly restricted.

Article 21 Banking and insurance institutions shall urge its customers to strengthen ESG risk management by improving the contract terms. For credit customers and investment projects that involve significant ESG risks, customers are required to ESG risk reports in the text or annex of the contract, and make statements and commitment clauses for customers to strengthen ESG risk management, as well as relief clauses when customers default in managing ESG risks.

Article 22 Banking and insurance institutions shall strengthen the management of the allocation of credit and investment funds, and take customers' management of ESG risks as an important basis for the allocation of credit and investment funds. In the design, preparation, construction, completion, operation, shutdown and other related sections of the credit and investment projects, the ESG risk assessment checkpoints shall be set up reasonably. If any significant potential risks rise, the fund allocation may be suspended or terminated according to the contract.

Article 23 Banking and insurance institutions shall strengthen post-lending and post-investment management, and formulate and implement targeted management measures for customers with potential significant ESG risks. Pay close attention to the impact of domestic and foreign laws, policies, technologies and market changes on customers' operating conditions and industry development, strengthen dynamic analysis, conduct scenario analysis and stress test, and make timely adjustments in asset risk classification and provision. Establish and improve the internal reporting system and accountability system for customers' major ESG risks. In the event of major ESG risks, it's important to urge them to take relevant risk disposal measures in time, and report the possible impact of the event in time.

Article 24 Banking and insurance institutions shall actively use big data, blockchain, artificial intelligence and other scientific and technological means to improve the level of green financial management according to their actual conditions, constantly improve business processes such as product development, operation and sales, investment and financing management. To optimize the ESG risk management of small and micro enterprise financing and online financing, and take differentiated and convenient management measures in risk assessment, due diligence, compliance review, credit management and post-investment management in combination with business characteristics to improve risk management.

Article 25 Banking and insurance institutions shall actively support the BRI green and low-carbon development, strengthen the ESG risk management of overseas projects to be granted credit and invested, and require project sponsors, their main contractors and suppliers to abide by relevant laws and regulations of the country or region where the project is located, such as ecology, environment, land, health, safety, etc., and follow relevant international practices or standards to ensure that the project management is substantially consistent with international good practices.

(Source: CBIRC)

High-Level Forum on South-South Cooperation on Climate Change

On November 14, 2022, the High-level Forum on South-South Cooperation on Climate Change was held at the 27th session of the Conference of Parties (COP27) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at the China Pavilion, co-hosted by the Department of Climate Change of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE) and the United Nations Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL), and co-organized by the Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center, MEE (FECO), the National Center for Climate Change Strategy and International Cooperation (NCSC), **BRIGC**, Global Environmental Institute (GEI), supported by World Resources Institute (WRI), the Energy Foundation (EF), C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF) and the Sequoia Climate Foundation. Mr. Xie Zhenhua, Special Representative for President Xi Jinping and China's Special Envoy on Climate Change, Mr. Zhao Yingmin, Head of the Chinese Delegation to COP27 and Vice Minister of MEE, and Mr. Simon Stiell, Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC, attended the opening ceremony and delivered speeches. Ministers and ministerial representatives from developing countries including Costa Rica, Cambodia, Cameroon, Antigua and Barbuda, Fiji and Tonga attended the forum and delivered keynote speeches. Mr. Zhang Yujun, Director General of FECO, delivered a speech on Challenges and Opportunities of South-South Cooperation in Addressing Climate Change.

Chinese speakers stress that climate change is a major global challenge of universal concern to the international community, and requires joint efforts by all countries to address it. As a responsible developing country, China has been an active advocate and practical player of South-South cooperation on climate change. Up to now, China has signed 45 cooperation documents of climate change with 38 developing countries, built three low-carbon demonstration zones, carried out 42 climate change mitigation and adaptation projects, and held a total of 45 offline training courses and 7 online training courses in China to



Mr. Zhao Yingmin, Head of the Chinese Delegation to COP27, Vice Minister of MEE

address climate change, training about 2,000 officials and technicians in the field of climate change for more than 120 developing countries. China has also jointly issued the *Declaration on China-Africa Cooperation on Combating Climate Change* with African countries, established the China-Pacific Island Countries Climate Change Cooperation Center with the Pacific Island countries, and held the China-Pacific Island Countries Dialogue and Exchange Meeting on Climate Change. In the future, China is willing to continue to carry out in-depth South-South cooperation on climate change with other developing countries, and provide assistance and support to other developing countries such as the least developed countries, small island states and African countries within its capacity.

After the Ministerial Forum, a roundtable was held under the themes of Addressing the Challenges and Opportunities of South-South Cooperation on Climate Change, Green Silk Road and the Practice of South-South Cooperation on Climate Change, and Actions and Prospects of South-South Climate Cooperation Supported by International Funds. High-level representatives and senior experts from international organizations attended the meeting and discussed issues on strengthening South-South cooperation on climate change and joining hands to address global climate challenges, including C40 Cities, CIFF, Sequoia Climate Foundation, African Climate Foundation, Oak Foundation, and Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

(Edited by BRIGC Secretariat)

Side Events on Ecological Civilization and Beautiful China Practices

On November 12, 2022, the side event of COP27 on Ecological Civilization and Beautiful China Practices was held in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. The side event was co-hosted by the Research Center for Xi Jinping Thought on Ecological Civilization (Policy Research Center for Environment and Economy, MEE) and China News Service (CNS), and organized by ChinaNews.

In his speech, Mr. Xie Zhenhua, Special Representative for President Xi Jinping and China's Special Envoy on Climate Change, said that over the past decade, China has become an important participant, contributor and leader in the global climate governance process, and has achieved remarkable results in its green and low-carbon transformation. President Xi has repeatedly stress that addressing climate change is an inherent requirement for China's sustainable development and an international obligation that responsible countries should fulfill, which is not something others want us to do, but something we have to do ourselves.



Mr. Xie Zhenhua, Special Representative for President Xi Jinping and China's Special Envoy on Climate Change

"Although many developed countries are currently affected by geopolitical conflicts and energy crisis, and their climate action has swung back, China still adheres to the strategic determination to actively respond to climate change as requested by President Xi, and we have to overcome many difficulties to achieve carbon peaking and carbon neutrality." According to Mr. Xie Zhenhua, China's climate policy has also been further strengthened during the 20th CPC National Congress, which also made clear deployments for China to promote climate action and global governance in the future, and we will do what we say.

Mr. Zhao Yingmin, Head of the Chinese Delegation to COP27 and Vice Minister of MEE, said in his written speech that over the past decade, President Xi has integrated the development of ecological civilization into the "five-in-one" general layout of socialism with Chinese characteristics, vigorously promoted theoretical, practical and institutional innovation of ecological civilization from the perspective of sustainable development. He has put forward a systematic and science-based Xi Jinping Thought on Ecological Civilization. His pioneering new ideas and strategies with Chinese characteristics can provide fundamental guidelines for the ecological civilization in China.

Mr. Zhao Yingmin said that China has always been an advocate and player in actively addressing climate change. China has always believed that only when the world gets better, China can be better, and vice versa. As a responsible country, China will continue to uphold the concept of ecological civilization and move forward towards the goal of building a beautiful China. This is not only China's own business, but also a contribution to the world.

Mr. Erik Solheim, former Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations, and **Convener of BRIGC Advisory Committee**, and Mr. Tim Yeo, former Chair of the Energy and Climate Change Committee of the House of Commons of the UK Parliament, delivered video messages and spoke highly of China's practical actions on addressing climate change.

Mr. Erik Solheim said that China is determined to win the nationwide battle to prevent and control pollution, and actively respond to climate change. The mountains and rivers have regained their beauty. China is already leading the way in green practices to better protect the natural environment. It has established the red line of ecological protection, which is a great system to protect wetlands and urban ecosystems.

Mr. Tim Yeo said that China today has almost taken up 40 percent of the world's wind power capacity and more than 33 percent of solar power capacity, an achievement that serves as a good example for other countries. More than half of the world's electric fuel cell and hybrid vehicles are from China, and the shift to electric vehicles will benefit the world by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, especially by improving air quality in many major cities and bringing immediate health benefits for billions of people.

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Mr. Dimitri De Boer, Director for Asia of ClientEarth and Chief Representative of ClientEarth China, and Mr. Zhang Jianyu, Executive President of BRI Green Development Institute, discussed the synergies between China's response to climate change and biodiversity conservation.

(Source: ChinaNews, edited by BRIGC Secretariat)

COALITION UPDATES

Roundtable on BRI Green Development (2022)

On September 24, 2022, the Roundtable on BRI Green Development was successfully held. The Roundtable was co-hosted by the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of China (MEE), the Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment of Singapore (MSE) and China Media Group, and co-organized by the BRI International Green Development Coalition (BRIGC) and the China Global Television Network under China Media Group (hereinafter referred to as CGTN). Themed on Green BRI & Green Shared Future and moderated by CGTN's well-known host Wang Guan, the forum invited renowned Chinese and international experts and scholars in the field of green development to discuss the importance of sharing the achievements of green innovation under BRI, addressing climate change through joint efforts, enhancing South-South cooperation, and facilitating green recovery and low-carbon transformation in BRI participating countries. The forum was broadcasted on CGTN worldwide.

Mr. Huang Runqiu, Minister of MEE, and Ms. Grace Fu, Minister of MSE, attended the event and delivered speeches via video link as co-chairs of BRIGC. The speakers include nine important guests from Chinese and international government departments, think tanks and international organizations.

In his opening speech, Mr. Huang Runqiu remarked that China, as a responsible country, has always upheld the concept of a community with a shared future for mankind and fostered sustainable development globally with all-out efforts. China has enhanced its green development under the framework of BRI, deepened practical cooperation with BRI participating countries in areas of green development, and joined hands to address environmental and climate challenges. Through BRIGC and other international exchange and cooperation platforms, we are able to strengthen cooperation, explore green innovation, promote mutual benefit and shared benefits, deepen cooperation on the Green Silk Road, and continuously support green development for more achievements. As the president of the COP15 to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Mr. Huang calls on all parties to demonstrate the political will and necessary flexibility to put in place an ambitious, balanced and pragmatic post-2020 global biodiversity framework.



Ms. Grace Fu pointed out that BRI has achieved practical results since its inception. A green and low-carbon future requires closer cooperation among countries both in science and technology and in industries. BRIGC has given full play to its role as a platform for exchange and cooperation, bringing together knowledge, data and dialogue. We hope that BRIGC and its partners will continue to facilitate dialogue in the field of green development and work together to build a better world.

Ms. Zhou Guomei, Director General of the Department of International Cooperation of MEE, summarized the progresses and achievements made in BRI green development in four areas—improving the policy system for green BRI, establishing a closer partnership for green development, deepening practical cooperation in green and low-carbon development, and enhancing the environmental protection capacity of BRI participating countries. In the future, the green BRI will continue to align with global environmental conventions, improve international cooperation platforms and support capacity building in BRI participating countries, in order to make greater contributions to global sustainable development.

Mr. Erik Solheim, Senior Advisor of the World Resources Institute (WRI) and Convener of the BRIGC Advisory Committee, spoke highly of the remarkable contribution that the Green BRI has made to the world's sustainable development. China has attached great importance to the green development practices and has made significant achievements in energy conservation, emission reduction, pollution reduction and carbon reduction. China has already established green development partnerships under the framework of the BRI through numerous overseas renewable energy cooperation projects. He looks forward to strengthening mutual learning between China and BRI participating countries so as to effectively promote the green and low-carbon transition of its BRI partners.

Mr. Marco Lambertini, Director General of WWF International and Co-chair of BRIGC, believes that conservation of nature is an important part of our response to climate change. If the crisis of biodiversity loss is not curbed in time, it will be difficult to meet the challenge of climate change. The *Green Development Guidance for BRI Projects* launched by BRIGC has established a hierarchical classification system for BRI projects, providing important ideas and tools for the green development of BRI projects.

Mr. Simon Tay, Associate Professor and Chairman of Singapore Institute of International Affairs, highlighted the need for developing countries to enhance the mutual support in terms of green transition, technological cooperation and green finance. Singapore will continue to support BRI cooperation and play a catalytic role by leveraging its own strengths to build technical and financial partnerships with more BRI participating countries.

Mr. Zou Ji, Advisor of the BRIGC Advisory Committee, CEO and President of Energy Foundation China, pointed out that developing countries face barriers in terms of finance, technology and knowledge in the process of achieving low-carbon transition. International cooperation on green development under the framework of BRI should leverage advanced experience, promote the concept of green development in participating countries, while assisting these countries to build the infrastructure for green development. BRIGC is expected to give full play to its role as a platform to strengthen exchanges in areas such as green infrastructure, green finance and green technology.

Mr. Zhang Jianyu, Executive President of the BRI Green Development Institute, believes that measures taken by China on climate change should be shared to more BRI participating countries. BRIGC and its partners are working to help developing countries achieve low-carbon transition, green growth and innovative development.

Mr. Kevin P. Gallagher, Director of Global Development Policy Center at Boston University, indicated that China's commitment to "stop new coal-fired power projects overseas" will reduce global carbon emissions by 594 million tons per year, which equals to Canada's annual carbon emissions. As China accelerates its move away from coal, it enjoys the financial and technological advantages unrivaled by many Western countries in driving global green development, which will bring enormous potential for the green transformation in developing countries.

Mr. Mustafa Hyder Sayed, Executive Director of the Pakistan-China Institute, lavished his praise on the many good examples of green development under the BRI. In the case of China's cooperation with Pakistan, the renewable energy projects as a part of the green development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) have brought more green jobs and improved the livelihoods of local communities than the conventional energy projects in the past.

Mr. Dimitri De Boer, Director for Asia of ClientEarth and Chief Representative of ClientEarth China, recognized the sound impact and fruitful results of the dialogues, exchanges, policy research and capacity building activities in the field of green development under the BRI. For example, the research and training activities on green finance in which BRIGC takes part encourage Chinese financial institutions to improve their environmental risk management capacity and contribute to the green development of the project countries.

In addition, nearly 50 students from BRI participating countries took part in the forum under the Green Silk Road Envoys Program and engaged in discussions with the guests invited. They asked questions on how developing countries can achieve a win-win result in balancing climate change responses and economic development, the key areas for green transition in BRI participating countries, and the paths to achieve the carbon neutrality target in China. The live broadcast on CGTN received an online audience of 51,000 people. The total number of viewers after the broadcast hit nearly 2 million.

2022 Annual Meeting of the BRI Environmental Big Data Platform

On November 16, 2022, the 2022 Annual Meeting of the BRI Environmental Big Data Platform was successfully held in the form of hybrid meeting. Themed on “Building a Green Silk Road for Double Carbon Goals”, the conference launched discussions on the construction of the Green Silk Road, South-South cooperation on climate change, green low-carbon and sustainable development practices in industrial parks, and renewable energy investment.

The conference was guided by the Department of International Cooperation of MEE, co-hosted by the Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center, MEE (FECO) and the Department of Ecology and Environment of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, and supported by the Belt and Road Environmental Technology Exchange and Transfer Centre (Shenzhen), China Chamber of Commerce for Import and Export of Machinery and Electronic Products, World Resources Institute (WRI), Energy Foundation China, Global Environmental Institute (GEI), the Research Institute of Environmental Protection of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, and the Foreign Environmental Cooperation Centre of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. The following guests attended the conference and delivered speeches: Mr. Li Yonghong, Deputy Director of FECO; Mr. Zhou Jun, Director of the Division of Asian, African, and Latin American Affairs, the Department of International Cooperation of MEE; Mr. Pak Sokharavuth, Director-General of the General Directorate of Environmental Protection, Ministry of Environment of Cambodia; Mr. Nakhalin Vorasarn, Deputy Director of the Department of Planning and Cooperation, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Laos; and Mr. Chen Liang, Director of the Department of Ecology and Environment of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.



Mr. Li Yonghong regarded climate change as a topic of great concern to the international community. BRI cooperation aims at high standards, sustainability and serves to improve people's livelihoods. It supports the green and low-carbon transformation of developing countries, deepens cooperation on ecological environment and climate governance, and contributes Chinese wisdom and Chinese solutions to global sustainable development. The BRI Environmental Big Data Platform has achieved milestones in promoting knowledge and information sharing on green and low-carbon development and building Green Silk Road partnerships. In the future, we should continue to deepen research and technology development in the areas of big data, strengthen technical exchanges and cooperation with developing countries in the field of climate change, and enhance the common development and shared growth among BRI participating countries, and tell the story of the Green Silk Road.

Mr. Zhou Jun said that the green BRI provides experience, paths and solutions for BRI participating countries to implement the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and seek green and low-carbon development. It has become an important vehicle for the international community to promote global ecological civilization and build a green community of a shared future for mankind. The BRI Environmental Big Data Platform is one of the important tools to improve the technical service capacity for environmental protection in BRI participating countries. We should strengthen the international cooperation for the green BRI, build a platform for dialogue and cooperation on policy and technology, provide intellectual support to climate-resilient infrastructure construction, enhance the digital application of green development cooperation, and provide intelligent support for the green and low-carbon transformation of industries in the countries of the region.

Mr. Pak Sokharavuth sees environmental issues as a hot topic of global concern. Cambodia is now scaling up its efforts in enhancing environmental protection capacity, as well as environmental protection industry and technology. Meanwhile, Cambodia has established extensive cooperation with China in environmental protection, and has carried out practical cooperation in specific areas such as setting up the China-Cambodia Environmental Protection Centre, initiating water resources protection demonstration projects, and building low-carbon demonstration zones. We hope that in the future, China and Cambodia will continue to strengthen cooperation in the field of low-carbon environmental protection and jointly promote the achievement of sustainable development goals.

Mr. Nakhalin Vorasarn pointed out that Laos, like many developing countries, is deeply affected by climate change. Laos attaches great importance to natural resources and environmental protection, and will strive to balance economic growth and environmental conservation. At present, China and Laos have carried out fruitful environmental cooperation. In the future, we hope to strengthen cooperation with China in areas such as renewable energy, electric vehicles and energy transformation, and continuously improve the country's environmental management capacity.

Mr. Chen Liang pointed out that the unique ecological advantages of Guangxi Autonomous Region, with beautiful natural landscape and its outstanding biodiversity, have endowed Guangxi the competitive edge in the ecological and environmental protection for countries along the Belt and Road. At the same time, Guangxi has a unique geographical advantage, which is conducive to promoting in-depth exchanges and cooperation between China and ASEAN countries as well as the BRI participating countries. The Guangxi Department of Ecology and Environment has launched the Guangxi sub-platform of the BRI Environmental Big Data Platform together with the FECO to enhance Guangxi's involvement and service in the green BRI development and regional ecological and environmental protection. In the future, Guangxi will make greater contributions to the green and low-carbon development in the region with a more open attitude.

In the keynote speeches, Mr. He Kebin, Professor of Tsinghua University and Academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, Mr. Guan Dabo, Professor of the Department of Earth Sciences of Tsinghua University, Mr. Jiao Jian, Director of the Special Committee on Energy Efficiency and Investment Assessment of the China Energy Research Society, Mr. Hou Jinming, Deputy Director of the Global Energy Interconnection Development and Cooperation Organization, Ms. Marlistya Citraningrum, Project Manager of the Indonesian Institute for Basic Services Reform, and other representatives from FECO shared their observations on the dual goals of carbon peak and carbon neutrality, global green sustainable development, carbon emission reduction paths in developing countries in the context of global sustainable development initiatives, low-carbon indicator systems that enable high-quality development of overseas industrial parks, climate change and global clean energy development and investment, and energy transition in BRI participating countries. Two parallel sessions were held under the theme of Green and Low-carbon Development in Industrial Parks and Scientific and Technological Support for Pollution and Carbon Reduction in Guangxi, and South-South Cooperation on Climate Change and Renewable Energy Investment.

The *BRI Environmental Big Data Report (2022)* was released during the conference. The report was jointly compiled by FECO, the Institute of Ecological Civilization of Nankai University and Energy Foundation China under the guidance of the Department of International Cooperation of MEE. The report systematically examines the ecological and environmental conditions of BRI participating countries, and analyzes the environmental factors such as the atmosphere, water environment, ecological environment and climate change in 24 countries, including Mongolia, Malaysia, Cambodia, the Philippines, Iraq, Israel and Oman, upon which an environmental evaluation system is established for BRI participating countries with analyses on the environmental challenges and potential opportunities for foreign investment in these countries, providing decision support for organizations that intend to make foreign investment and implement overseas projects.

More than 200 representatives attended the meeting, including from Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Zhejiang Province and other local ecological and environmental authorities, industry associations, research institutes, industrial parks and enterprises, as well as environmental authorities, think tanks, international organizations and other institutions from BRI participating countries, such as Cambodia, Laos and Indonesia.

China Ecological Civilization Forum Nanchang Annual Conference--International Forum on Green BRI Cooperation

On November 20, 2022, the China Ecological Civilization Forum Nanchang Annual Conference — International Forum on Green BRI Cooperation was successfully held in Nanchang, Jiangxi Province. Under the guidance of the Department of International Cooperation of MEE, the forum was co-organized by FECO, and the China Ecological Civilization Research and Promotion Association (CECRPA), with the support of BRIGC and the participation of the People's Government of Nanchang County, Nanchang City and the 3 Clear Technology Co., Ltd.

The forum themed on High-Quality Green BRI Cooperation in the Post-Pandemic Era. Mr. Zhang Yujun, Director General of FECO, Mr. Xiao Yun, Vice Mayor of Nanchang City, Mr. Qian Yong, Director of the Research Centre of Xi Jinping Thought on Ecological Civilization, and Mr. Tu Ruihe, Representative of the UNEP in China, attended the forum and delivered speeches. Mr. Wang Ke, Deputy Secretary-General of the China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE), delivered a video message. Mr. Wang Zhijia, former Special Coordinator of the UNEP moderated the conference.



Mr. Zhang Yujun indicated that the world economy is plagued by a sluggish recovery and thus it's urgent to focus on green and low-carbon transition and explore a new development path that synergizes economic growth and ecological protection. He pointed out that since the launch of the BRI, much progress has been made in the BRI green development. The concept increasingly plays a leading role with improved exchange mechanisms and deepened practical cooperation, which has continuously empowered the BRI participating countries to improve their environmental protection capacity. Zhang also proposed that, in the face of the new situation of global environmental and climate governance, we should enhance the complementary advantages of green and low-carbon development in the BRI participating countries, strengthen the practice of cooperation in key areas of the green Silk Road, make practical achievements in building green BRI, and effectively boost the sense of accomplishment and happiness of the people in BRI participating countries, so as to fuel the high-quality development of the BRI.

Mr. Xiao Yun introduced the progress and outcomes of Nanchang's ecological governance and environmental protection work. Nanchang, as an important city for the BRI, will follow the green development concept, consolidate the foundation of green industrial development, integrate into regional development collaboration, promote industrial transformation and upgrading, and increase the level of openness in all aspects, so as to create favorable conditions for its integration into BRI cooperation.

More than 30 representatives attended the forum, including inter alia the Department of Ecology and Environment of Jiangxi Province, the Cambodia-China Relations Development Association, the Asian Institute of Eco-Civilization Research and Development of Pakistan, the Belt and Road Environmental Technology Exchange and Transfer Centre (Shenzhen), the Beijing Pinglan Public Welfare Foundation, China Water Affairs Group and others. They exchanged views on the paths of realizing high-quality development for green BRI in the post-pandemic era and shared practical and innovative cases of green and low-carbon transition in the BRI participating countries.

The China Ecological Civilization Forum is an important platform for China to discuss major issues in ecological progress, share experiences and build consensus. This year's conference awarded 106 ecological civilization construction demonstration zones (the 6th batch), 8 ecological civilization construction demonstration zones (eco-industrial parks) and 51 "Lucid Water and Lush Mountains are Gold and Silver" practice and innovation bases (the 6th batch). The Third China Ecological Civilization Award was given to 40 advanced collectives, 60 outstanding individuals and 10 winners of the "2020-2021 Green China Person of the Year". The conference, with 12 parallel sub-forums, has also released the Nanchang Declaration on Ecological Civilization.

MOU Signed for China-Cambodia South-South Cooperation Project on Low-carbon Demonstration Zone for Material Assistance Phase II

On November 9, in the presence of Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen, the *Memorandum of Understanding Between the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of the People's Republic of China and the Ministry of Environment of the Kingdom of Cambodia on the Second Batch of Material Assistance Projects on the Low-Carbon Demonstration Zone for South-South Cooperation to Address Climate Change* was signed in Cambodia by the Chinese Ambassador to Cambodia, on behalf of the Chinese Ministry of Ecology and Environment, and the State Secretary of the Cambodian Ministry of Environment.

Previously, the Chinese and Cambodian environment departments have signed the *Memorandum of Understanding Between the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of the People's Republic of China and the Ministry of Environment of the Kingdom of Cambodia on Building a Low-Carbon Demonstration Zone* in 2019. China provided 2,800 sets of solar-powered street lights, 200 sets of solar-powered campus photovoltaic systems, 200 electric motorbikes, 10 sets of automatic air quality monitoring stations, 10 sets of portable industrial flue gas monitoring, noise monitoring, and vibration monitoring apparatus and other devices to Cambodia for climate change response. China also provided assistance on capacity building training and worked with the Cambodian side to prepare a low-carbon demonstration zone construction plan to improve Cambodia's capacity to cope with climate change. At present, all the above-mentioned aid and equipment have been delivered to Cambodia in good working condition. The compilation of the plan for the low-carbon demonstration zone has been completed. The construction of the low-carbon demonstration zone has been widely acclaimed by various levels of Cambodian society.

The China-Cambodia South-South Cooperation Low Carbon Demonstration Zone Project is a concrete initiative to implement President Xi Jinping's "Ten-Hundred-Thousand" South-South Cooperation Initiative (i.e. building ten low-carbon demonstration zones, a hundred climate change mitigation and adaptation projects, and offering a thousand training personnel in developing countries) and the BRI plan to address climate change under the framework of the South-South cooperation. To promote the construction of low-carbon demonstration zones and achieve higher green and low-carbon goals, China will deliver another 1,500 sets of solar street lights, 2,000 sets of household photovoltaic power generation systems, two mobile air quality monitoring vehicles and other equipment and materials to Cambodia to address climate change, and continue to provide support for the construction of the China-Cambodia Low-Carbon Demonstration Zone in Sihanoukville Province in line with the MOU signed.

Since the launching of South-South cooperation in addressing climate change, China has signed 45 cooperation documents with 38 developing countries, providing practical assistance to the countries concerned to actively address climate change, which is highly recognized and widely acclaimed by developing countries.

(Source: MEE)

China-Uruguay South-South Cooperation Project on Climate Change Delivery Ceremony Successfully Held

The delivery ceremony for the assistance provided by China's Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE) to Uruguay to address climate change was held on 29 September, 2022. Wang Gang, the Chinese Ambassador to Uruguay, and Pablo Da Silveira, the Minister of Education and Culture of Uruguay signed the delivery certificate for the assistance—a set of mobile reception and processing system for meteorological satellites.

This project is a concrete initiative and one of the tangible outcomes for the implementation of President Xi Jinping's "Ten-Hundred-Thousand" South-South Cooperation Initiative (i.e. building ten low-carbon demonstration zones, initiating a hundred climate change mitigation and adaptation projects and offering a thousand training quota in developing countries) and the BRI plan to address climate change under the framework of the South-South cooperation. In November 2019, China and Uruguay signed a MOU in which China pledged to provide an integrated mobile reception and processing system for multi-star satellite data to Uruguay for meteorological observation in order to improve its capacity to cope with climate change.

Pablo Da Silveira, the Minister of Education and Culture of Uruguay, expressed his heartfelt thanks to the Chinese Ministry of Ecology and Environment for its generous donation and for sending technicians to Uruguay. He regards the project as a model of South-South cooperation on climate change. The government of Uruguay attaches great importance to climate change and sustainable development, and believes that the system will greatly improve the country's agricultural production, environmental monitoring and the prevention of extreme climate disasters. Under the framework of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, Uruguay is willing to further strengthen exchanges and cooperation with China in the field of climate change and sustainable development, and to deepen the strategic partnership between the two countries.

(Source: MEE)

Mr. Erik Solheim

Convener of the BRIGC Advisory Committee and Senior Advisor of World Resources Institute



◆ China Ecological Civilization Philosophy will Gain more Support

The concept of ecological civilization practiced by China shows a positive thinking that aims to create a better world for all. The concept of ecological civilization tells us that human beings can and should live in harmony with nature and live a healthier and better life. The concept focuses on a new way to organize the ways of production and live, and then solve the global ecological and environment problems.

We need global cooperation. Many environmental problems are cross-border issues. The concept of ecological civilization practiced by China regards the world as a whole system and calls on all countries to work together to strengthen global cooperation. Renewable energy projects are accounting for a growing share of China's overseas energy investments, and BRI cooperation on green development will provide an important platform for international cooperation on sustainable development.

(Source: People's Daily)

◆ Green Development in Africa can be Supercharged by Learning from Asia

Asian investments, particularly from China, can play a major role. China has helped African connectivity through green railroads from Djibouti to Addis Ababa and from Mombasa to Nairobi. Trams in Addis Ababa and light rail in Kano, Nigeria are other impressive projects. President Xi Jinping's decision to halt all Chinese overseas coal investment was a significant factor. Beijing has also designated the BRI as a major vehicle for solar, wind, hydro and green hydrogen investments. Chinese high-tech companies such as Huawei and Tencent can help Africa integrate renewable and digital technology.

The African green transformation can be supercharged by learning lessons from the Asian success story and by forming deeper partnerships and investments with Asia.

(Source: CGTN)

◆ Good China-ASEAN Relations Help Ecological Civilization

Apart from the geographical and cultural proximity, China and ASEAN have been becoming economically interconnected since the inception of the BRI, helping bring vast numbers of the local populations out of poverty. ASEAN has seen robust investment from China in the last decade. In some ASEAN countries such as Cambodia and Laos, China has constituted the largest source of foreign investment for a couple of years.

The strong economic ties and friendly relations between China and ASEAN lay a solid foundation for the two sides to expand their cooperation into the ecological conservation. Jointly achieving the green transition is an essential part of China-ASEAN cooperation. China's decision to stop building new coal-fired power plants abroad provides a huge opportunity for massive investments in solar, wind, and green hydrogen in the ASEAN countries. BRIGC will continue to serve as a global platform to boost green cooperation.

(Source: China Daily)



Mr. Sommad Pholsena

Vice President of the National Assembly of Laos

◆ China's Success Lies in Following its own Path Instead of Blindly Copying the West

The Belt and Road Initiative and the building of a community with a shared future for mankind show the CPC's internationalist perspective to seek happiness for the Chinese people and all mankind. The BRI and the concept of attaining win-win outcomes have increasingly received positive responses and widespread support from people of all countries. They have driven China's own development and promoted connectivity and common prosperity for the world. This reflects the political strength of the CPC's leadership and the strength of the socialist system. It also provides confidence and power for developing countries, including Laos, to explore a development path that suits their national conditions.

(Source: China Daily)



Mr. Song Shuguang

**Chairman, China Export&Credit Insurance Corporation (Sinosure), Chinese Lead
Partner of the TP on Green Finance and Investment of BRIGC**



◆ Coordinated Domestic and International Transition can Drive BRI Green Development

As the global green transition becomes an imperative trend, most BRI participating countries are still in the stage of achieving economic growth through large-scale resource consumption, and their green technology and green finance systems need to be strengthened. At the same time, the rapid development of domestic green and low-carbon industry has facilitated a green and low-carbon circular economy in China. Faced with the great opportunities of global green and low-carbon transition,

Sinosure can provide the risk protection and financing services to inject capital into the green industry and promote the "going global" trend of green facility and technology. It will not only help China's green industry's overseas development, but also provide strong support for developing countries to optimize their energy mix and respond to climate change, to achieve coordinated development of green and low-carbon transition at home and abroad.

(Source: China Finance)



EPILOGUE

Promoting the Implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, Making Greater Contributions to Global Sustainable Development

“Going forward, China will continue to advance ecological progress, and plan its development in the context of promoting harmonious co-existence between man and Nature..... We will do our best to provide support and assistance to fellow developing countries through the BRIGC and the Kunming Biodiversity Fund, so as to elevate global biodiversity governance to a new height.”

--- Address by Xi Jinping at the Opening of the High-Level Segment of Part II of the 15th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity

On December 15, 2022, in his address at the Opening of the High-Level Segment of Part II of the 15th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15), President Xi pointed out that “We will do our best to provide support and assistance to fellow developing countries through the BRIGC and the Kunming Biodiversity Fund, so as to elevate global biodiversity governance to a new height”. Government leaders worldwide have made new commitments on COP15. The landmark Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (the Framework) adopted at COP15 proposed the ambitious target of ensuring and enabling at that by 2030 at least 30% of terrestrial, inland water and of coastal and marine areas are effectively conserved. It also demands raising international financial flows from developed to developing countries to at least USD 20 billion per year by 2025, and to at least USD 30 billion per year by 2030.

At the end of 2022, in the face of geopolitical conflicts, energy security and other global challenges, we applaud the success of COP15. The importance of biodiversity conservation in global environmental governance has been fully demonstrated, and the landmark Framework showcased the determination of the international community in realizing global sustainable development. However, we must realize that we are about to embark on a long and enduring journey and that the implementation of the Framework is a race against the clock. BRIGC will work together with over 150 cooperation partners from more than 40 countries to enhance biodiversity conservation in building the Belt and Road, and provide support and assistance to BRI participating countries in implementing the Framework.

Since its establishment, BRIGC has been providing solutions for eco-environmental protection and biodiversity conservation of China’s overseas investment and construction projects, and biodiversity conservation cooperation and green and low-carbon transition in BRI participating countries. A series of research projects have been carried out in collaboration with domestic and international partners, including *BRI Green Development Outlook*, *Green Development Guidance for BRI Projects*, *BRI Green Development Case Study Report* and *BRI Case Studies Report on Biodiversity Conservation*, which provided great support to the announcement of the Chinese government’s pledge to “stop building new coal-fired power projects overseas and step up efforts to help developing countries with new energy development”, and the release of policy documents including the *Opinions on Jointly Promoting Green Development of the Belt and Road*, and *Guidelines for Ecological and Environmental Protection in Overseas Investment and Cooperation Construction Projects*. By organizing Roundtable on BRI Green Development, BRI Green Innovation Conference, Vista of the Green Silk Road and other events, BRIGC has been gathering consensus and facilitating the green development of the BRI.

In 2023, we will embrace the tenth anniversary of Belt and Road cooperation. The Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation is receiving high expectations from the international community. BRIGC will work together with cooperation partners to foster more flagship products and events with global influence, provide more deliverables for the tenth anniversary of BRI through organizing exchanges and dialogues, thematic research projects, knowledge sharing and capacity building activities and other events, in order to gather greater consensus for BRI green development, promote high-quality Belt and Road cooperation on green development on an open, inclusive and voluntary basis, and make greater contributions to the implementation of the Framework and other global sustainable development processes.



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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