



OUR YEAR JOURNEY

1979-2019

United Nations Development Programme in China





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UNDP partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in more than 170 countries and territories, we offer global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.

Foreword

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has been operating in China for four decades. During this time, China has witnessed successive rounds of reform that have seen the country both improve its standard of living and open up to more global engagement.

As we look back on our history we have a special opportunity to reflect on how much has been achieved in the area of sustainable development in China: UNDP helped introduce the overall concept of sustainable development to China, advocating for its acceptance and its integration into governmental policies; we helped connect China with international development experience and good practices to inform domestic approaches and build local expertise and capacities; we supported technology transfers and the mobilization of international financing to assist in China's development, and now assist China's offering of development experience and innovation to the world.

This photo album offers a glimpse into the key landmarks of our history in China and the photos tell the story of how UNDP has evolved alongside a transforming China.

The milestones have been compiled with the help of many current and former colleagues at UNDP. We are greatly indebted to them for their memories and insights, which have made this album possible.

I would like to extend my thanks to our national counterparts, UN agencies and to all other partners who have shared this remarkable journey with us. Special appreciation goes to the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM), our government coordinating agency, and the China International Center for Economic and Technical Exchanges (CICETE), our key programme management partner, for their continued assistance and engagement on development initiatives including the ones in this album.

2019 marks the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China and the 40th anniversary of UNDP's engagement in the country. We are proud to have traveled this road together, hand in hand with the government and the people of China. Many challenges still remain to achieve the SDGs, but together with our partners, UNDP stands ready and determined to address them, further paving the way to a brighter and better future for all.



Beate Trankmann
UNDP Resident Representative in China

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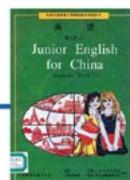


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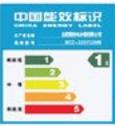


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2007

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2007

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2008

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2009

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2011

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2012

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2012

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2013

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1979

Establishment of UNDP China



The UNDP China Country Programme was established in September, 1979 with the signature of the UNDP-Government of China Standard Basic Assistance Agreement. This event followed on the heels of China's decision to implement reform and opening up policies at the Third Plenary Session of the 11th CPC Central Committee, held in Beijing in 1978. UNDP subsequently became China's first development cooperation partner and one of the few windows to foreign ideas, practices, and technology. The assistance initially consisted of an ad hoc allocation of \$15 million, with which 27 projects were formulated.



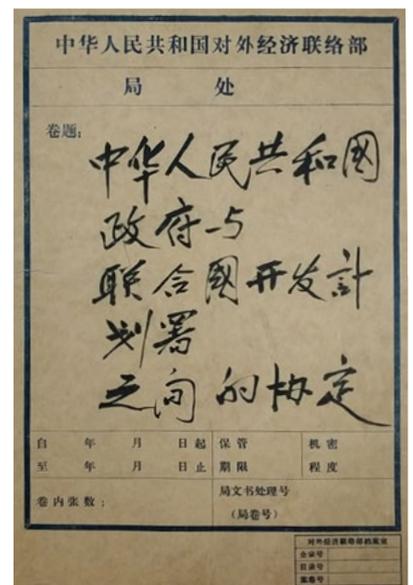
Former Chinese Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping meets with former UNDP Administrator Bradford Morse on 4 September, 1979.

©Xinhua



Former UNDP Administrator Bradford Morse, former Foreign Minister of China Huang Hua and former Vice Minister of Foreign Trade Wei Yuming at the launching ceremony of the UNDP China office.

© Xinhua



1979

UNDP's First Project



UNDP China's very first project, executed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN, was the Pilot Demonstration Centre for Intensive Pasture, Fodder and Livestock Production in the Wongnute Banner of the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. Many more agricultural initiatives followed, and between 1979 and 1984, China's agricultural productivity increased by 55%.



First participants in the Wongnute pilot demonstration centre, Inner Mongolia.

© Xinhua



1979-1984

Digitizing China's Information Management Infrastructure



In the early days of reform and opening up, there was an urgent need in China to develop capacity to evaluate and effectively manage a large number of complex domestic and international projects which involved numerous diverse components. The only efficient way to do this was through the utilization of a modern computerized database.

Together with the Ministry of Commerce (formerly the Ministry for Economic Relations with Foreign Countries), UNDP worked to establish an Information Processing and Training Centre to manage the burgeoning information infrastructure in China and control and evaluate the status and progress of economic and technology projects in the country. As part of this project, UNDP brought some of the earliest computers into China and provided training in the area of information processing, technology transfer, and economic evaluation.



The ADM 3A Dumb Terminal. The more you use it, the smarter it gets.

When it comes to low-cost, data entry display terminals, one name clearly stands out from all the rest—the Lear Siegler ADM 3A Dumb Terminal video display.

With nearly 200,000 terminals installed in just a few short years, it is without question the choice of system integrators and users around the world.

It's no wonder. In addition to its uncompromising reliability and sensible price tag, the teletype compatible ADM 3A gives you the right combination of features for the simplest to the most sophisticated data communication needs: systems for law enforcement agencies, hospitals, banks, schools, factories...almost any business where information processing is a way of life.

Picture it in your system. When it comes to features, the ADM 3A is human engineered to make operator training simple and quick. And day-to-day operation a pleasure.

For starters, the Dumb Terminal gives you a full 12-inch (30.5cm) diagonal display packaged in a rugged but compact enclosure. Perfect where space is a premium. Its 24 row by 80 character per line screen displays 1920 crisp, easy-to-read white or optional green

characters. Ninety-six ASCII characters with alphabet characters displayed in upper case, are also standard on the ADM 3A.

On the keyboard, you have 59 data entry keys arranged in teletypewriter style for easy operation. And because the Dumb Terminal offers complete cursor control, you can enter data anywhere on the screen from the keyboard. Or from the computer by absolute cursor addressing.

When the Dumb Terminal interfaces with your computer, you can choose from either full or half duplex operating modes. And you can select the word format that's most suitable to your particular system—standard 9, 10, or 11 bit words, odd, even or no parity, and one or two stop bits.

The ADM 3A also gives you a wide choice of transmit and receive speeds. Eleven to be exact. From 75 to 19,200 baud.

It gets even smarter when you use its connections.

The Dumb Terminal becomes downright smart when it's linked with the more intelligent members of your system. It's compatible with all popular selectable 20mA current loop and the EIA standard RS-232C interfaces. So you get direct or data link connection to

all standard computer ports. And because the ADM 3A includes an RS-232C extension port, you can even daisy-chain multiple terminals or plug-in asynchronous, serial ASCII printers, disk or tape drives...almost any RS-232C device.

Service, service, service!

The Dumb Terminal has proven to be the most reliable terminal in the field today. But should any service be required on any Lear Siegler Dumb Terminal, you can bring it to any one of 26 "Walk-in" service centers around the United States. And get the terminal repaired while you wait.

It's another innovative service from Lear Siegler—the Express Depot™ maintenance program. Now you can get the kind of service other terminals only dream about.

One dumb idea just leads to another.

So whether you opt for the old reliable ADM 3A or the new reliable ADM 5, there's just no substitute for the price/performance operation of a Lear Siegler Dumb Terminal.

The ADM 3A and ADM 5 Dumb Terminals. They might just turn out to be the smartest investments you can make.

An advertisement for the ADM-3A video display terminal manufactured by US-based Lear Siegler in the late 1970s. UNDP supplied the Beijing Institute of Computing Technology with such terminals to train software and hardware engineers.

1980

Supporting the Special Economic Zones



UNDP carried out a study tour related to trade development and foreign investment, with a focus on Special Economic Zones (SEZs). Former General-Secretary of the Communist Party of China, Jiang Zemin, who was the Vice Minister of the Administrative Commission for Foreign Investment at the time, headed a 6-week tour of 6 countries in Asia Pacific and Latin America. He recalled afterwards that the knowledge gained on this tour provided government leaders with the understanding and direction they needed for the newly established SEZs.



Former General-Secretary of the CPC, Mr. Jiang Zemin, gives a speech in 1990, at the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone.

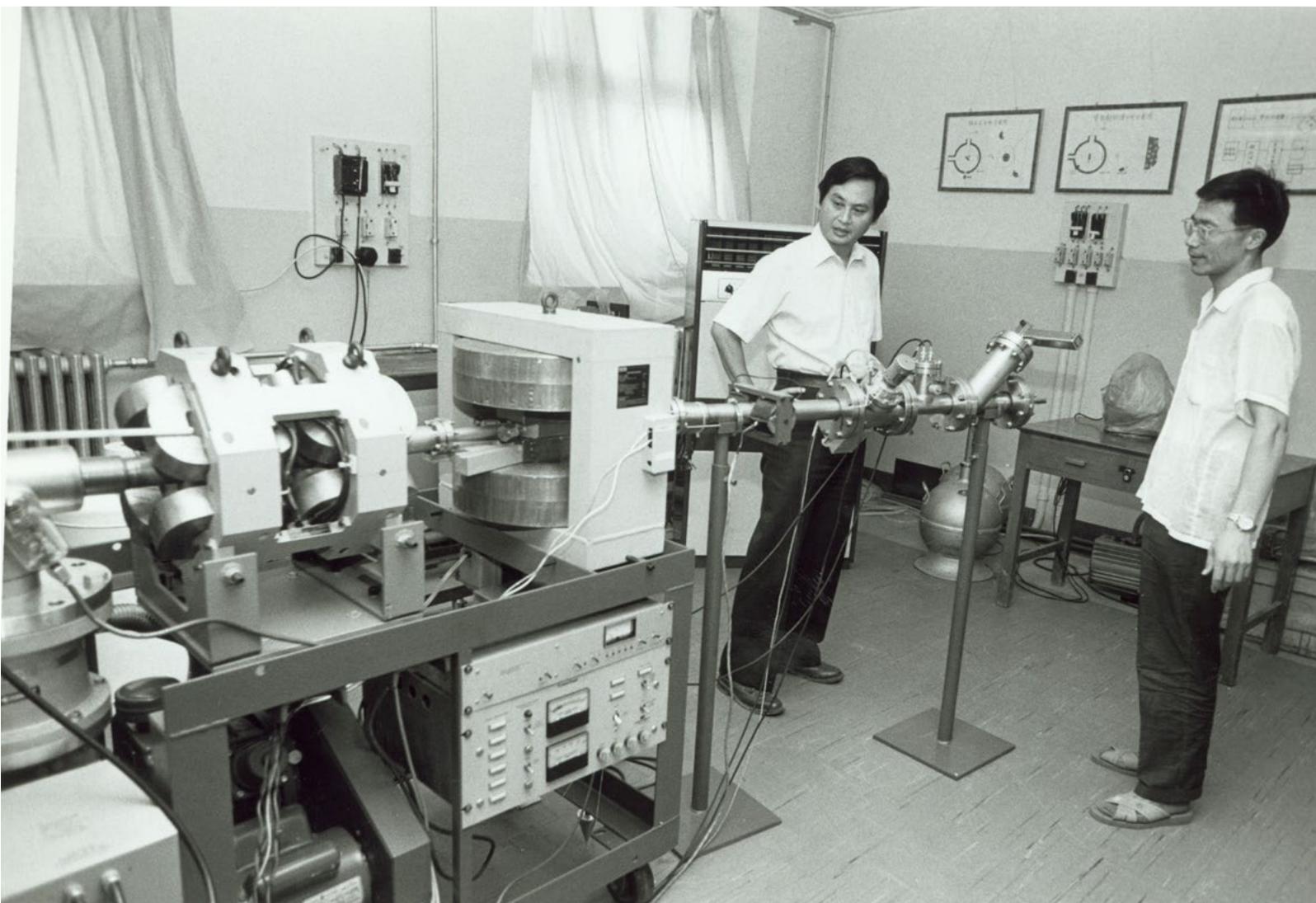
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1982

Chinese Expatriates Share Their Knowledge



UNDP implemented the Transfer of Know-How through the Expatriate Nationals (TOKTEN) programme to allow over 250 Chinese expatriates to share their expertise with Chinese scientists and government leaders.



Experts from the TOKTEN programme at a university's biophysics department.

1983

The Establishment of CICETE



The China International Center for Economic and Technical Exchanges (CICETE) was established under the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade (later renamed the Ministry of Commerce) to contribute to China's socio-economic development by promoting economic and technical exchanges between China and the rest of the world. CICETE serves as a specialized international assistance executing agency that coordinates cooperation between China and UNDP, UNIDO and UNV.



The inauguration ceremony of CICETE.



A scientist is working at the Vegetable Research Center in Beijing.

©Xinhua

Early 1980s

Regional Training Centres



During the First Country programme, over 1300 scientists and technicians from developing countries received training at regional centres supported by UNDP. One of these was the Beijing Vegetable Research Centre. With the help of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN, pest and disease resistant hybrids of many vegetables were developed for China, and a number of new food varieties were introduced for cultivation such as broccoli, five different kinds of lettuce, and Japanese watermelon and cantaloupe. This greater variety resulted in increased nutritional intake.

1988

The National School of Administration



UNDP played an important role in the establishment of the National School of Administration (NSA). The NSA is now the premier training centre for middle and senior level government officials.



The establishment of the National School of Administration (NSA).

1988

Reforming the Social Security System



In the 1980s, the Chinese Government decided to begin the massive task of restructuring the Social Security System to bring it in line with a market oriented economy. In collaboration with the International Labour Organization, UNDP helped lay the foundation for Social Security reform with several projects designed to enhance the technical competence of social security planners and administrators. Moreover, the projects provided secondments for senior government officials to study social security and wage policies in a variety of countries.



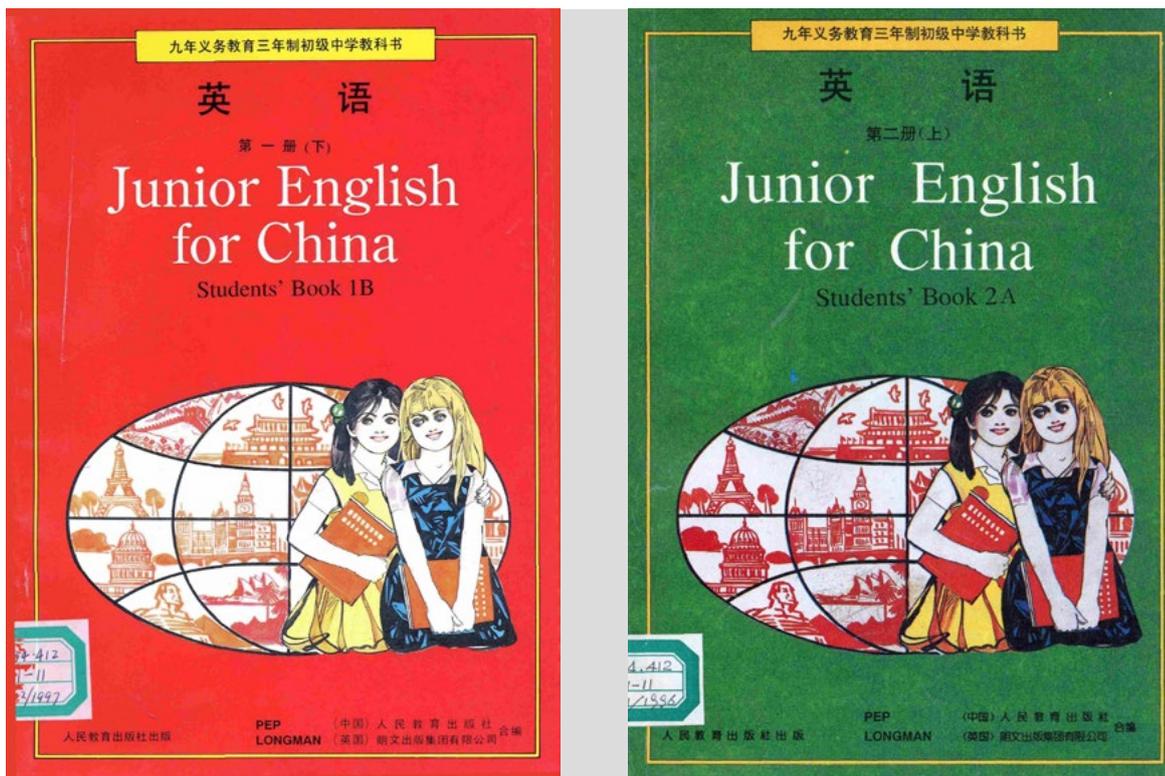
1988-1993

Modernizing English-language Education



Partnering with the People's Education Press under the Ministry of Education (formerly the State Education Commission), Longman Publishing, and UNESCO, UNDP carried out China's first international project to design English Language learning textbooks from 1988 to 1993. A set of up-to-date secondary school English teaching materials were published and used in all Chinese classrooms, which were the very first English textbooks co-designed by Chinese government and international partners. Additionally, through training at home and abroad, and exchanges with foreign experts, the capacity of professional writers, editors and designers of English teaching materials was enhanced.

With over 100 million Chinese students ultimately benefiting from these interventions, the project had a major impact on the entire generation of Chinese students who started learning English in middle schools. To this day, characters from the textbook including Li Lei, Han Meimei and the English-speaking parrot Polly, remain childhood memories of many Chinese born in the 80s and 90s.



The English Language textbooks produced as part of a UNDP project in the late 1980s

1989-1994

Civil Service Reform



A UNDP project laid the groundwork for a new approach to Civil Service reform, featuring breakthrough efforts to establish clear rules governing the appointment, promotion and tenure of civil servants. This project provided training opportunities for thousands of senior and middle level government officials in modern personnel management techniques.



1991

Developing Western China



UNDP assisted China in starting to map out a plan to develop its western provinces. UNDP agreed to reinforce programmes in poor and remote areas for agricultural productivity. Projects established in response included agricultural development in arid and semi-arid areas of northwest China and income generation for yak-raising in minority groups. UNDP's people-centered approach in reaching out to disadvantaged groups was further reinforced from this period on.



1991

Attaining Global Environment Facility Funding



China was one of the first countries in the world to receive project funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF). This was largely due to UNDP's assistance to the government in reviewing and ratifying the many international environmental protocols that came about at the time, such as those dealing with green-house gases and ozone depleting substances. Support from the GEF has been a major reason behind the successful results of a wide variety of environmental projects implemented by UNDP.



First public fuel-cell bus in China produced with support from the GEF.

1991

Advancing Administrative Reform



UNDP launched a project to enhance the capacity of the Ministry of Personnel (later renamed the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security) in streamlining the administrative structure of government throughout the country. This project provided the Government with a valuable model for administrative reform.



1991

Promoting Cleaner Power



In response to the Chinese Government's decision to replace coal fueled power plants with nuclear power plants, UNDP provided valuable assistance by collaborating with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in supplying training and advisory services to ensure that construction and operation of the nuclear power plants conformed to international standards. China is now a world leader in nuclear power with 32 nuclear plants to be built by 2020.



1991-1992

Disaster Relief in Anhui



On May 18th 1991, massive flooding occurred in Anhui, with 30 million people affected. UNDP offered financial support for disaster relief, and worked with the Government to rebuild thousands of clinics and schools.





1992

Assisting the Development of China's Agenda 21



Li Peng, former Premier of China's State Council, attended the 1992 Earth Summit, at which Agenda 21 was revealed. UNDP subsequently assisted the State Science and Technology Commission (now the Ministry of Science and Technology) and the State Planning Commission (now the National Development and Reform Commission) to formulate and implement China's Agenda 21 at the national level, stressing coordinated sustainable development of economy, society, resources, and environment.





Former Chinese Premier Li Peng at the head of state round table summit of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Brazil.
©Xinhua

1992

Reforming the Economic Legal System



UNDP launched a major project to assist the Legislative Affairs office of the State Council to organise and lead 19 government ministries and departments in the establishment of a new economic legal system. As a result, 32 major economic laws were drafted, including the Budget Law, Foreign Trade Law, Banking Law and Securities Law.



Former Vice-Chair of the NPC Council of Law, Mr. Xiang Chunyi, is explaining the new Foreign Trade Law at the 7th meeting of the 8th Standing Committee.

©Xinhua



82-year-old Dr. Yang Tianquan, while holding the Budget Law of the PRC, says he is very glad to see enforcement of the law.
© Xinhua

1992

Modernizing China's Customs Service



UNDP assisted the General Administration of Customs (GAC) to begin an extensive modernization of China's customs service. The time needed for processing customs clearance documents was reduced from 22 days to 22 seconds, which greatly contributed to China's trade and economic development. The emphasis of the programme was on establishing a secure and efficient customs management system for the GAC through a global customs network.



1993

Overcoming Iodine Deficiency Disorder



In the early 1990s, over 400 million Chinese were estimated to be at risk of iodine deficiency disorder (IDD) and only about 40% of dietary salt was properly iodized. UNDP, along with other organisations such as UNICEF and WHO, established a project in 1993 to assist the Government in adding iodine to salt, which was subsequently sold all over China. As a result of this project IDD was nearly eliminated in China by 2000.

1993

Combating HIV/AIDS



UNDP, in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO), established a groundbreaking, multi-pronged programme to combat HIV/AIDS in China at an early stage. The programme was the first of its kind, and brought together partners from a variety of sectors to address the disease as both a health and development challenge. For instance, UNDP worked with the Ministry of Health (now the National Health Commission) to publicize the effect of HIV/AIDS, and with the Ministry of Railways (defunct as of 2013) to implement a mass awareness campaign aboard trains. UNDP also arranged a series of workshops to introduce best practices from Thailand for responding to the disease, and it cooperated with the Harvard Public Health Research Center to conduct research on the potential economic impact of HIV/AIDS in China.



An AIDS orphan – a child who has become an orphan after losing one or both parents due to AIDS.

© Xinhua

1993

The First Poverty Alleviation Programme



UNDP China's first poverty alleviation programme was established in two minority counties in Yunnan – Jingping and Malipo – which lie on China's border with Vietnam. A model was built up which was replicated in many other parts of the country. This project was also one of UN China's first Joint Programmes as over half a dozen agencies were involved in its formulation and implementation.



Early 1990s

Introducing Microfinance to China



UNDP was one of the first international organisations to pilot microfinance in China. The project ranged across 48 counties in 16 provinces. More than 300,000 clients all over China have since been given small loans from revolving loan funds adding up to nearly US\$10 million. In conjunction with the funds, borrowers have been given training in business as well as life skills to help them realize their full potential. The beneficiaries of the programme have been among the rural poor in China's least developed areas. The vast majority of clients have been women, often lower educated and from ethnic minority groups.



UNDP microfinance project in Inner Mongolia



Fan Guanying, a laid-off worker in Tianjin, set up the "Community Dining Table" with the microcredit loan she received through the UNDP and Chinese government joint project to help laid-off workers with re-employment and job generation. © Xinhua



Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Peace Prize winner and founder of Grameen Bank, and delegates from Bangladesh's Grameen Bank speak with villagers in Tibet about microfinance.



Former UNDP Resident Representative Kerstin Leitner (left) at a project signing in 2001 with former Vice President of the All China Federation of Trade Unions (ACFTU) Xu Xicheng (center) and former Director of CICETE Wang Yue (right). The project aimed to demonstrate how ACFTU can operate a micro-finance program through commercial banks for its members.



Yan Dong, Director General of CICETE (second from right) having a discussion on poverty alleviation with microfinance recipients in Xingren County, Guizhou Province.

1994

The Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan



In collaboration with the National Environment Protection Agency (now the Ministry of Ecology and Environment), the World Bank and with support from the GEF, UNDP formulated and launched the Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan. This document has offered significant support to China's efforts to advance its biodiversity conservation at both the national and international levels.





1996

Capacity Building for the People's Bank of China



UNDP carried out a series of international study tours that strengthened the capacity of the People's Bank of China to implement monetary policies, and supervised reforms necessary to achieve the Government's Ninth Five-Year Plan goal of forming a new socialist economic system by the year 2000.



Headquarters of the People's Bank of China in Beijing.

1997-Present

Publishing the National Human Development Report



In 1997 UNDP produced its first National Human Development Report (NHDR), giving a comprehensive overview of sustainable human development in China and what challenges the country faces. The report explored and coordinated diversified human progress across different regions and societies, between rural and urban areas, between economic and social sectors, and between domestic and international regimes.

When we refer to human development it encompasses the protection of people's social rights to healthcare and education; equality among different communities and genders; and thirdly, mass participation in public affairs. Since 1997, UNDP China has subsequently produced the NHDR multiple times, reflecting China's rapid economic and social development. Our most recent NHDR report was released in 2016 entitled, "Social Innovation for Inclusive Human Development". In 2019, a new report will be released.



China National Human Development Report.

1999

Promoting Green Fridges



Together with the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the UN Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), and the State Environment Protection Administration (now the Ministry of Ecology and Environment), UNDP launched a project to promote the production and consumption of energy-efficient refrigerators free of chlorofluorocarbons (CFC). CFCs are chemicals typically used in refrigerants and aerosol propellants that are harmful to the earth's ozone layer. The project, which received the International Climate Protection Award from the US Environment Protection Agency (EPA), introduced innovative market incentives targeted at both manufacturers and retailers, providing subsidies for the production of energy-efficient refrigerators. Over the course of the project, the number of "green" refrigerators sold dramatically increased from 1,000 units in 1999 to 40 million in 2005.



Before Chinese New Year, some customers learn about the advantages of CFC-free refrigerators in a department store in Haikou. ©Xinhua



Closing Ceremony of the Green Refrigerators Programme, 1999.

1999

Capacity Building for the Commercialization of Renewable Energy in China



With the support of the Global Environment Facility, UNDP implemented a highly successful US\$ 26.5 million programme to promote widespread adoption of renewable energy technologies in China. This project developed national capacity for the rapid commercialization of renewable energy systems in China, including support for establishment of the China Renewable Energy Association. It demonstrated successful models for hybrid power in rural households and developed national programs in solar water heating and wind energy. Furthermore, it assisted with the formulation of China's new renewable energy law, and removed barriers to promising renewable energy technologies.

In Bulunkou township, one of the pilot sites in Xinjiang, 312 households, along with the clinic and the school, are provided with electricity from the wind-diesel-solar hybrid power system. ©Stephen Shaver/Bloomberg News.



In Kezhou, Xinjiang, 40 solar power stations were built, providing electricity to 15,000 residents in 37 villages in 2002 and 2003.





2000

Promoting the UN Millennium Development Goals



The Chinese Government signed the United Nations Millennium Declaration and adopted the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). China made enormous efforts to achieve the MDGs. In particular, between 1990 and 2008, the number of poor people in China fell by more than 300 million, a great contribution to the global progress at that time toward MDG 1 (to halve the proportion of people living on less than US \$1 per day). UNDP supported China in its work towards the MDGs through advocacy, policy analysis, monitoring and project implementation.



In 2002, former UNDP Resident Representative Kerstin Leitner (third from right) speaks at the National World Summit on Sustainable Development Workshop in Beijing focused on achieving the Millennium Development Goals. The event was jointly hosted by UNDP and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



2001

Supporting China's Admission to the WTO



China's admission to the World Trade Organization (WTO) was approved after 15 years of negotiations. UNDP's extensive involvement in activities designed to enhance China's role in international trade played a significant role in this development. For instance, working with the State Intellectual Property Office (now the China National Intellectual Property Administration), UNDP's effort to enhance the capacity of the government to handle intellectual property matters at an international standard proved especially useful to China's accession to the WTO.



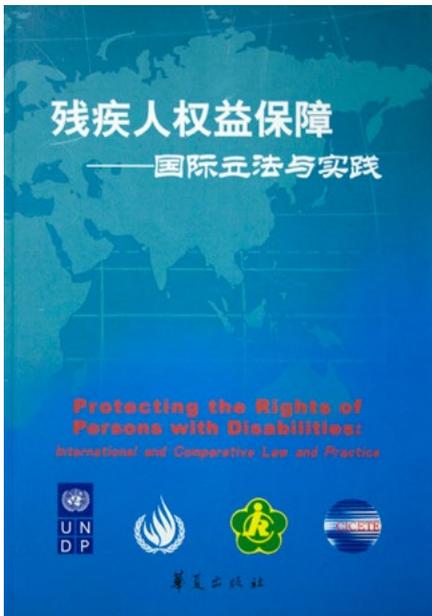
Signing ceremony for China's accession to the WTO.
© Visual China



In 2005, at the 25th Anniversary of UNDP in China, former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan presents an award to Deng Pufang, a close partner of UNDP and a renowned champion of the rights of persons with disabilities.

2003

Protecting the Rights of Persons with Disabilities



On 3 December, the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, UNDP launched a publication entitled *Protecting the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: International and Comparative Law and Practice*. This document was produced in collaboration with the China Disabled People's Federation with financial support from the Irish Government. This publication was the first of its kind in China, introducing international laws, instruments and practices protecting the rights of persons with disabilities. It has served as a useful tool in assisting rights protection workers, researchers, government officials and legal practitioners in China.



2004

Supporting an All-Round Xiaokang Society



UNDP launched its flagship Xiaokang programme to promote broad-based partnership between the UN system and the Government for achieving the MDGs as complementary to China's Xiaokang. "Xiaokang" means all-around, balanced and good society for all. Under the project, six provinces – Qinghai, Sichuan, Hunan, Jilin, Jiangsu and Yunnan – were selected as pilot sites to undertake assessment of Xiaokang goals and indicators at the provincial level. Findings from the programme were used to support the formulation of China's development strategies such as the 12th Five-Year Plan. Major inputs were provided for the formulation of a long-term development vision of China.





2005

Establishing the International Poverty Reduction Center



Along with the State Council Leading Group Office of Poverty Alleviation and Development of China (LGOP), UNDP initiated and supported the establishment of the International Poverty Reduction Center in China (IPRCC), aimed at creating a global knowledge hub on poverty reduction. The IPRCC has since provided government officials and experts from developing countries all over the world with training on poverty reduction and sustainable development.





2005

Protecting China's Biodiversity and Strengthening Ecosystems

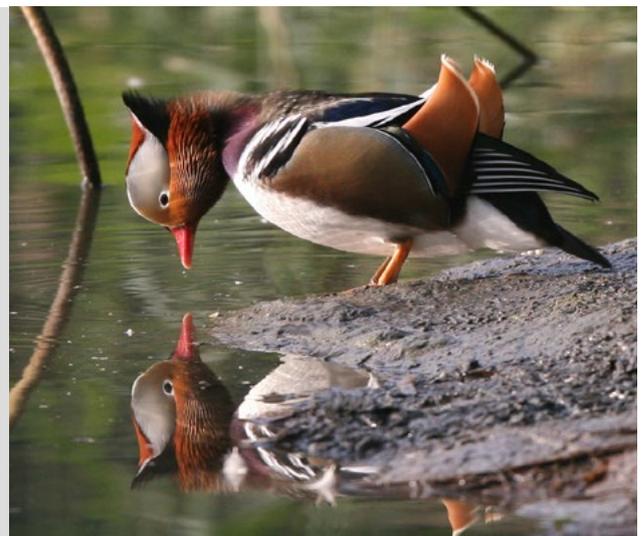


UNDP, in partnership with the State Environmental Protection Administration (now the Ministry of Ecology and Environment) and with support from the Global Environment Facility, helped formulate and implement the China Biodiversity Partnership Framework (CBPF). The aim of this innovative programme is to ensure the conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity in China by supporting joint analysis, programming and monitoring of results among government agencies, donors and non-governmental organisations.

That same year, UNDP also supported the implementation of the EU-China Biodiversity Programme with the aim of conserving specific ecosystems in China and strengthening biodiversity management. This five-year project succeeded in drafting biodiversity targets for 2010, and implementing 17 field projects. China's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan was drafted with wide stakeholder participation.



Biodiversity Programme.
© John Mackinnon



Biodiversity Programme.
© John Mackinnon



2005

Providing Capacity Building to Advance China's "Xiaokang" Vision



In 2003, when the Government redefined its national development vision to "Xiaokang," or all-around, balanced and good society for all, UNDP held a series of international training sessions for 345 senior leaders in China to enhance their understanding of the new development paradigm and to improve their own leadership, management and implementation capacities. As a result of this project, these leaders came up with dozens of policy recommendations on how to best build a Xiaokang society, many of which were incorporated into the 12th Five Year Plan.



Signing ceremony for the third phase of the UNDP Xiaokang leadership development programme.



Chinese officials participating in various training sessions as part of UNDP's leadership development programme.



2005

Supporting the Promotion of the Rule of Law



Through the Umbrella Programme to Support Promotion of Rule of Law, UNDP helped to increase access to justice for the poor and disadvantaged. UNDP cooperated with key national partners such as, the Law Committee of the National People's Congress and the Ministry of Justice to respond in a quick and flexible way to emerging areas of legal reform, and to further enhance national capacity to develop the rule of law in line with international standards.



Yang Dongmei (middle), an investigating magistrate from Gaomi municipal court in Shandong Province, is handing a sessional notice to a litigant and giving him advice on quotes.

© Xinhua

2006

Recognized for Achievements in Poverty Reduction



UNDP's commitment and efforts in assisting the Government in poverty alleviation was highly recognized by the nation, winning the Prize of International Cooperation for Poverty Reduction in China, awarded by the Chinese Foundation for Poverty Reduction.



Former Vice Premier Hui Liangyu presents UNDP China with the award for International Cooperation for Poverty Reduction in China.



2006

Innovative Technologies for Poverty Alleviation



The UNDP Technical Task Force (TTF) programme was established as a joint initiative between UNDP and the Ministry of Science and Technology, which aims to link farmers with innovative, environmentally friendly and locally relevant technologies so as to increase their income and enhance sustainable development. The programme also focused on introducing market mechanisms to traditional agriculture in rural China. From 2012 through 2014, the programme was scaled up to cover 31 provinces and 75,000 TTF personnel were dispatched to implement it. Since 2008, 1 million farmers have benefited from the programme each year, with an average annual income rise of 10%.



63 years old Liu Zehua proudly displays the increased output from his mushroom field in Ji County, Tianjin, a site of UNDP's TTF project.



2007

Providing Legal Aid for Migrant Workers



UNDP, supported by the Government of Belgium, launched a one-year project with the All China Lawyers Association to establish a nationwide network of qualified lawyers dedicated to voluntary legal aid services for migrant workers. This initiative set up local legal aid service centers in 15 provinces and supported existing legal aid centers in seven provinces. In total, free legal aid service was provided to 370,000 migrant workers through 2,250 cases.



Lawyers at a seminar held during a project visit to the legal aid station in Shaanxi.



A lawyer working in the legal aid station in Shaanxi.



2007 The Governance for Equitable Development Programme



UNDP and the European Union signed an agreement to support a large-scale initiative aimed at strengthening rule of law and enhancing civil society participation in China. Entitled “Governance for Equitable Development”, the four-year, US \$10.5 million programme was the first comprehensive initiative of its type. It simultaneously addressed key issues and concerns in three areas: law-making through the National People’s Congress, the judicial process through the Supreme People’s Court and civil participation through the Ministry of Civil Affairs and civil society organisations in China.



2007

Implementing the Umbrella Programme on Water Governance



In 2007, in partnership with the Coca Cola Company, UNDP launched a project to support government efforts to improve water resources management and drinking water safety in rural parts of China. Activities included setting up pilots in non-point source pollution (pollution not originating from one particular source) prevention, improved latrine facilities for schools, organic farming and waste water treatment.

In 2010, this project expanded into an Umbrella Programme on Water Governance with additional focus on water resources allocation, the rebuilding of drainage pipelines and implementing ecologically sustainable agricultural technologies for water conservation. As a result of this initiative, Coca Cola met its target to replenish in nature the water used in their production three years ahead of schedule. Additionally, a series of valuable policy suggestions and solutions for central and local water resource management have been devised and issued, while outreach work has enhanced public consciousness of water safety and environmental protection issues.



The project has provided a reliable source of water for fishermen of the Haihe River basin and has led to a boom in the local fishing industry.



Zhang Yi, Deputy Director General of CICETE (second from left), visiting a school that benefited from the water management project in Kashgar, Xinjiang Uyghur Atonomous Region.



The 2008 United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Poznan, Poland.

2008 The Joint Programme to Tackle Climate Change



UN China, with substantial support from UNDP, established an innovative Joint Programme (JP) on climate change known as the China Climate Change Partnership Framework (CCPF). JPs are mechanisms for streamlining activities involving two or more UN organisations or subnational partners under a common work plan and budget. The CCPF exemplifies the JP model by bringing together the work of nine UN Agencies and their ten government counterparts. It is the first Joint Programme of its kind on climate change in China. Its key achievements to date include the formulation of post-2012 strategies on international cooperation on technology transfer mechanisms, sectoral analysis on international technology cooperation and the link between human development and carbon budgeting.



2008

Building Back Better and Greener



The 2008 Sichuan Earthquake affected more than 40 million people, leading to over 69,000 deaths. The earthquake left behind untold levels of poverty and losses in communities that were already struggling. At the Chinese Government's request, UNDP stepped in, launching a two-year, US\$5.3 million programme to assist 20 of the poorest villages affected by the earthquake.

UNDP's early recovery programmes covered areas including livelihood rehabilitation, legal support and social services. Poverty alleviation efforts included a cash-for-work programme where villagers were paid on a daily basis for helping to rebuild critical facilities such as local roadways and drinking infrastructures. In addition, UNDP ramped up energy and environmental planning and promoted community based disaster risk management.

Qing Liehua with his neighbour, Qiu Shibin, whom he helped to raise chickens after receiving UNDP support in Qinghe village, Sichuan Province.

©Yan Lu



2009

Promoting Green Lights



UNDP and the National Development and Reform Commission launched the US\$ 84 million Green Lights programme. Phase I of the project ambitiously aimed to phase out the import and sale of incandescent light bulbs in China and replace them with energy efficient bulbs over the course of three years. This resulted in an 8% reduction in annual national energy consumption.

Former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon delivers a speech at the signing ceremony for the Green Lights Programme in July 2009.





2010

Strengthening Cooperation on International Development



UNDP and the Government of China signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to strengthen partnership on shared development priorities and international cooperation. Since then, through dialogue facilitation and demand driven policy research and projects, UNDP has supported China's efforts for positive engagement on global development under South-South Cooperation.

Former UNDP Administrator Helen Clark and former Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao sign an MOU on South-South Cooperation.





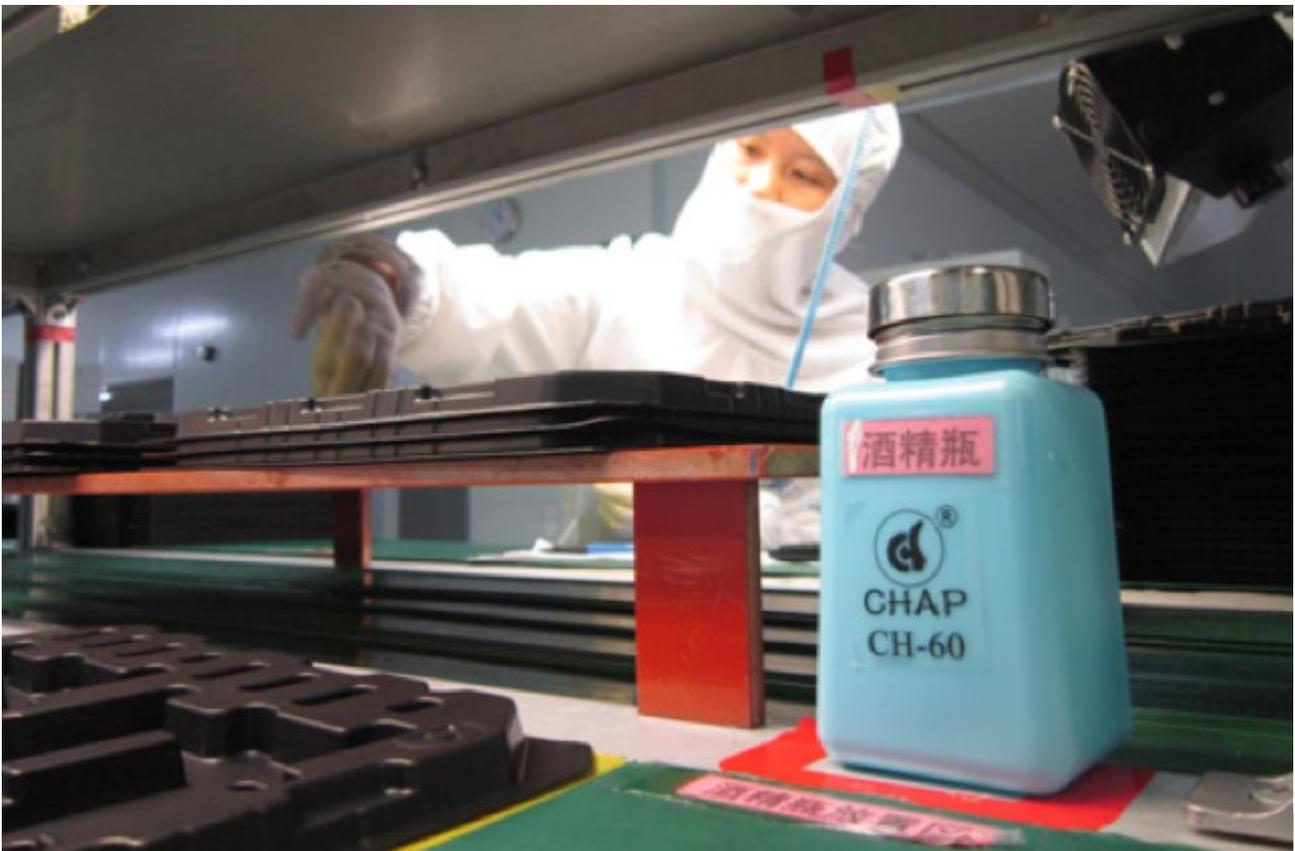
2011

Phasing Out Harmful Chemicals to Protect the Ozone Layer



To contribute to the global efforts of protecting the ozone layer according to the Montreal Protocol, UNDP and the Foreign Economic Cooperation Office (FECO) of the Ministry of Environmental Protection (now the Ministry of Ecology and Environment) worked together on reducing the consumption hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) which are substances harmful to the ozone layer.

By replacing the harmful chemicals in the production processes of the commercial refrigerant and solvent sectors, UNDP helped reduce China's HCFC consumption by more than 500 ODP tonnes per year, and eliminated 8 million tonnes of potential greenhouse gas emissions.



Crystal liquids sticks being cleaned by the automatic cleaning machines using ODS-free solvents in a pilot project of this initiative.



A public interest lawyer from All-China Environmental Federation (ACEF) collecting waste water as evidence for public interest litigation.

2011-2012

Promoting China's Environmental Justice



Since 2011, UNDP has been supporting the improvement of China's environmental legislation and its environmental governance system. Many people affected by environmental destruction lacked knowledge of their environmental rights and ways to seek legal redress. In addition, many Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) were not legally recognized as qualified plaintiffs to bring a case against another in a court of law. UNDP provided legal training to stakeholders on promoting awareness and actions on protection of the public's environmental rights, especially in strengthening civil and environmental public interest litigation. With UNDP's help, the All-China Environmental Federation (ACEF) became one of the first CSO plaintiffs to file an environmental public interest lawsuit against polluters, and submitted a proposal in 2011 to establish an environmental public interest litigation system to the National People's Congress and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. Major advancements have been made in the Civil Procedural Law by establishing the public interest litigation system, and making CSOs eligible to delegate citizens as plaintiffs in environmental public interest litigation.



2012

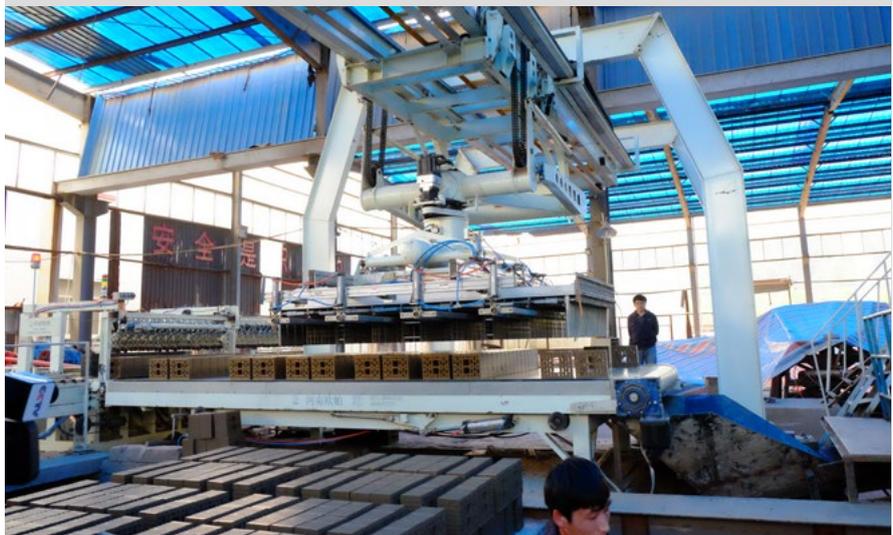
Transforming the Energy Efficient Brick Market



China's energy demand is driven by energy intensive development, with real estate one of the most demanding sectors. 60% of China's buildings are in rural areas. These buildings are made from clay bricks, which have poor insulation and require more energy to produce. The Energy Efficient Bricks and Rural Building Project primarily aimed to remove barriers to market transformation in rural areas. The National Standards of Fired Perforated Bricks/ Blocks Initiative supported by the project was formally launched on April 1, 2012. Energy efficient bricks and building information systems were created and pilots in buildings in rural areas successfully reduced overall energy demand by 50%. The project ultimately resulted in a cumulative CO2 emission reduction of more than 1.6 million tonnes.



A Zhejiang local resident displaying an energy efficient brick.



New machinery used to create energy-efficient bricks at a brick factory.



2012

2032: The Future We Want



A collection of images of participants who contributed to the production of the film, representing individuals from all age groups and backgrounds.



In the lead up to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development Summit (Rio+20), a short public-service film entitled “2032: The Future We Want” was produced and released by UNDP, together with the Department of Public Information of the UN Headquarters. Designed to draw on the convening power of Rio+20, the five-minute film contains powerful expressions of hope and inspiration from people across China whose messages were broadcast to state leaders and a global audience during the Summit.

The film is the creation of award winning Chinese film Director Du Jiayi and contains a special message from internationally acclaimed actress and UNDP Goodwill Ambassador Zhou Xun. Joining Ms. Zhou in the film production were some 232 participants, with each person being asked to answer the question “what do you want the world to be like in twenty years”. From the young to the elderly, students to professionals, and from ethnic minorities from rural villagers to migrant workers in big cities, together their answers provide a poignant reminder of the role that individuals can play in shaping the world we want to live in.

In addition, images of 100 finalists were included in a commemorative photo album which was designed to be reopened and reviewed in 20 years time when the world comes together for what is likely to be Rio+40.



2012

Development of a National Emission Trading System



With funding from Norway, UNDP assisted the Chinese Government in building a robust national emissions trading system (ETS). Beginning with the launch of pilot programmes in cities across China including Beijing and Shanghai, the project eventually expanded to a nationwide system, and has since become the largest ETS market in the world. As a direct result of this project, in 2018, China's total trading volume of CO2 exceeded 270 million tonnes, equivalent to RMB 6 billion. Accomplishments also include a proposed assessment methodology for allowance allocation of the ETS, a database of carbon trading information, and an implementation plan for monitoring and evaluation of third-party verification bodies.





Wrap-up workshop of the second phase of UNDP ETS project with the Ministry of Environmental Protection (now the Ministry of Ecology and Environment) and Norwegian Embassy





2012-Present

Launching the Global Governance Initiative



In 2012, UNDP launched the Global Governance Initiative together with the China Centre for International Economic Exchanges (CCIEE), one of the country's leading think tanks. The objective of the initiative is to establish a platform for policymakers to identify the global governance challenges in the rapidly changing international political and economic landscape. In addition, the platform is meant to provide policy recommendations for effective global governance so as to enhance the ability for emerging and developing countries to have greater responsibilities and global impact. Since 2012, the Global Governance Forums have been held bi-annually, with each forum followed by a flagship report covering the major topics of discussions and policy recommendations generated during the Forum.



2015 Report: Rebalancing Global Economic Governance - Opportunities for China and the G20 beyond 2015



Former UNDP Associate Administrator Rebeca Grynspan addresses the Global Governance Forum.



2013

Cooperation between China and Cambodia under South-South Cooperation



Alongside China's Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) and Cambodia's Ministry of Agriculture, UNDP has helped small processors and exporters of cassava in Cambodia to increase their revenues and cassava exports, creating jobs in the cassava sector. As a bridge between China and Cambodia, this South-South cooperation pilot project was crucial for farmers to draw on China's comprehensive experience in cassava cultivation, and gradually address production, market and ultimately poverty challenges.



In 2014, UNDP and MOFCOM representatives give a training session to Cambodian farmers on cassava planting and pest control.



Individuals at a Chinese re-education through labour institution.
©Xinhua

2013

Promoting the Abolition of the Re-education Through Labour System



UNDP assisted the government in abolishing the Re-education Through Labour system (RTLs), used to detain individuals who had not had formal trials or those whose offences did not fall under Criminal Law. A group of 30 national experts contributed to this study which, at UNDP's suggestion, included an analysis of Vietnam, a country with a comparable legal context that had recently undergone a similar process. A policy report based on this consultation was submitted to the Leading Group Office of Judicial System Reform under the Committee of Political and Legal Affairs of the CPC Central Committee and directly informed the decision to abolish the RTL system, affecting 60,000 people detained in 350 camps countrywide.



2014 Reducing Persistent Organic factory Pollutants (POPs)



POPs can last in the human body for 50 years, passed on from mother to babies. They have been detected in places as remote as the North Pole. UNDP has supported the Ministry of Ecology and Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs in implementing Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) reduction initiatives and enhancing public awareness as part of a global effort to reduce POPs in line with the Stockholm Convention.

A large part of the efforts to reduce POPs in China has focused on the elimination of DDT in China's marine ecosystem. There are around 300,000 fishing vessels spread along China's coastline that collectively consume around 10,000 tonnes of antifouling paint. This paint is often laced with DDT and therefore leave trails of harmful POPs in the water and pollute marine ecosystems. To address this issue, 24 new paint alternatives were introduced and 864 tonnes of these alternatives were produced with the help of UNDP.



Dang Jiru is in his orchard in Luochuan County, Shaanxi Province. He is one of 100,000 farmers trained to adapt their farming techniques to adhere to international trading standards requiring the elimination of DDT pesticides resulting in increased harvests and expanded markets for sale of crops.



Examining antifouling paint on ship hulls.



Employee producing DDT alternative antifouling paint in Zhejiang flying whale paint.



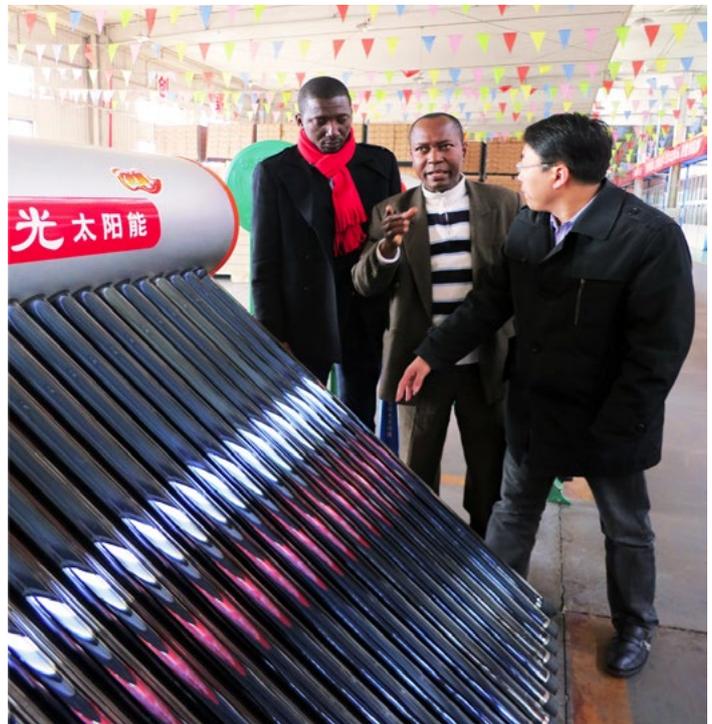
2014 Promoting the use of Renewable Energy in Africa



With funding from the Danish government, UNDP partnered with China's Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), the Ministry of Energy (DoE) in Zambia and the Energy Commission in Ghana, to develop two new trilateral projects on renewable energy technology transfer between China, Ghana and Zambia. The projects represent one the first examples of trilateral South-South cooperation between China and African countries.

Stakeholders increased their knowledge on solar technologies and on the acceptable standards for solar equipment entering the Zambian market at a training by the University of Zambia.





Stakeholders increased their knowledge on solar technologies and on the acceptable standards for solar equipment entering the Zambian market at a training by the University of Zambia.





2014 Innovative Solutions for e-waste Recycling



UNDP worked with Baidu to develop a smartphone application called Baidu Recycle to promote the recycling electronics. This app helps users price and recycle their electronic products by introducing legitimate e-waste pick-up online services, helping to streamline the recycling process and cut down informal recycling stations. In the first year, the service reached 22 cities in China with over 4000 items recycled.

In 2016, an international workshop on e-waste management was also held, with participants from 13 countries: India, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Vietnam, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Jordan, Mexico, Maldives, Egypt and Zambia. They came to Beijing to learn about China's e-waste management systems, practices, disposal and treatment technologies and to discuss how these can be applied and replicated throughout the world.



Baidu Founder and CEO Robin Li and Former UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon sign the first piece of e-waste recycled under the Baidu Recycle app.



An e-waste dismantling facility in Tianjin.

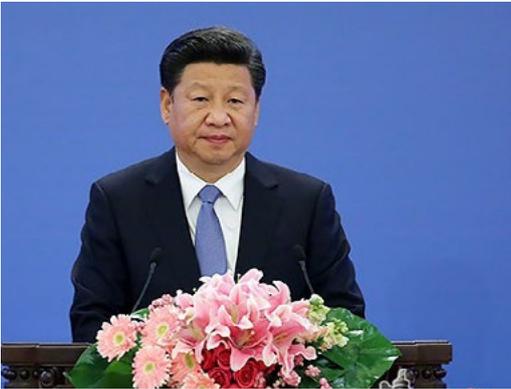


2015

Sharing China's Experience on Poverty Alleviation



In 2015, UNDP, the International Poverty Reduction Center in China (IPRCC), and other organisations jointly organised the Global Poverty Reduction and Development Forum. Hosted bi-annually, the goal of this forum is to broaden the impact of International Poverty Eradication Day and share experiences and lessons in poverty reduction. At the 2015 forum, Chinese President Xi Jinping delivered a keynote speech on China's strategy and targets for poverty alleviation. In a video message, former UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon recognized the declaration made by China to ensure that everyone living in poverty in China would be lifted above the poverty line by 2020. As the special representative of the UN Secretary General, former UNDP Administrator Ms. Helen Clark attended the Forum. In her speech, she commended China for its major commitments to achieving the SDGs globally, and also emphasized that the importance of China mainstreaming SDG 1 into its five-year plan for 2016- 2020.



Chinese President Xi Jinping attends the Plenary Session and delivers a keynote speech on China's strategy and targets for poverty alleviation.



Former UNDP Administrator Helen Clark delivered a speech at the forum.



2015

Launching the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



Building on the Millennium Development Goals, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the environment and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. Adopted by all 193 UN Members States in September 2015, the SDGs are 17 ambitious goals with 169 targets that will guide UN policy and funding for the next 15 years.

The SDGs are interconnected. UNDP is doing its part, calling upon and bringing together the government, private sector, philanthropic actors, and civil society towards achieving these goals. China was one of the first countries, even before the SDGs were agreed, to commit to integrating sustainable development in its national development plan. Now, UNDP is working closely with the Chinese government to integrate the SDGs into development decision-making, ensuring that no one is left behind.





2015

Advocating Sustainable Chinese Business Overseas



Chinese enterprises are assuming an increasingly prominent role overseas, with Chinese outward direct investment (ODI) rising at an average rate of 36.4% each year since 2000. The 2015 Report on the Sustainable Development of Chinese Enterprises Overseas provided an overview of Chinese investments and recommendations for sustainable practices abroad. Two additional reports have since been published in 2017 and 2019 focusing on the same topic. The 2019 report looked specifically at private-owned enterprises in Belt and Road partner countries, one of the first reports ever to do so.



The launch of the 2015 Report on the Sustainable Development of Chinese Enterprises Overseas.



2016

Social Attitudes towards LGBTI

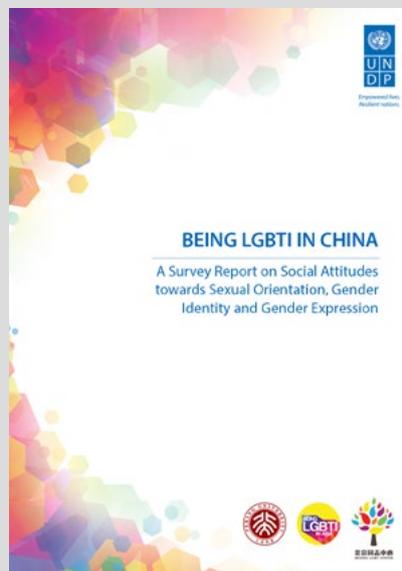
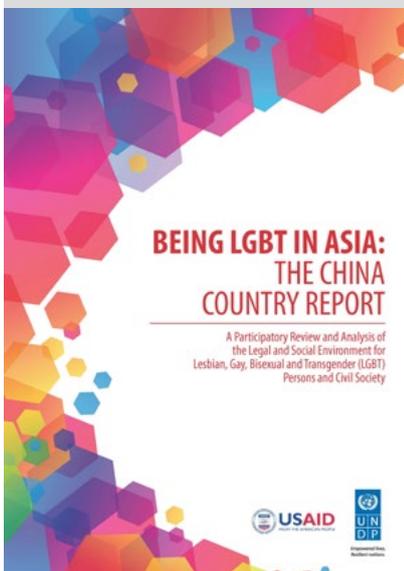


The first national report on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) issues in China was launched in 2016 and commended positive steps such as the abolishment of laws used to intimidate LGBTI individuals, and highlighted a positive growth in the LGBTI civil society, changing societal attitudes and a growing interest from academic institutions on LGBTI-related research and policy discussions.

The report was based on a survey of nearly 30,000 respondents from all provinces in China reflecting the life experiences of LGBTI people. The report explores the legal environment, education, employment, family, faith and access to health services, mental health, media, social services and other areas that affect LGBTI people in China.



Launch event for the SOGIE report at UNDP China office, Beijing.



Beijing LGBTI in Asia China Country Report (Left) and National Survey Report on Social Attitudes towards Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression (SOGIE) in China (Middle and Right).



2016

The Belt and Road Initiative: Collaboration for Sustainable Development



The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is a vision for strengthened economic cooperation through enhanced infrastructure connectivity, trade and investment links, and policy coordination between China and other countries. It is a global framework for cooperation, guided mostly by bilateral agreements between China and participating countries. It can be an accelerator to achieve the SDGs globally leveraging its potential through financing for development via investments and trade and other initiatives– given sustainability is built into the actions

In September 2016, UNDP and the Chinese Government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for cooperation on the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) on the margins of the 71st United Nations General Assembly during Premier Li Keqiang's visit.

With the 2030 Agenda at the core of its mandate, UNDP welcomes all efforts that have the potential to accelerate achievement of the SDGs on a global scale. The BRI can significantly contribute to unlocking important resources, and to enhancing sustainable human development in partner countries. Through collaboration on the initiative, UNDP aims to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes for developing countries and ensure that their needs are responded to.



Ms. Helen Clark, former Administrator of UNDP, and Mr. Xu Shaoshi, former Chairman of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) signing an MoU for cooperation on the Belt and Road Initiative



2016

Envisioning an Energy Future with Zero Emissions



For more than a decade, UNDP has been working on promoting hydrogen-based clean energy solutions in China. Together with the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), UNDP has been working on the development of commercial demonstration of hydrogen fuel cell vehicles (FCV) and supporting policies in China since 2003, with the support of the Global Environment Facility (GEF). In 2016, UNDP and Chinese partners launched the third phase of the project to help commercialize FCVs in China and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transport sector.

In the same year, UNDP launched the first Hydrogen Economy pilot city in Rugao city, Jiangsu province, with the aim of realizing a new economic model that relies on hydrogen as a key power source to meet the energy demands of economic and social development.



UNDP Goodwill Ambassador Michelle Yeoh showcases a Fuel Cell city bus at UN compound in Beijing.



2016

Promoting SDGs Localisation



UNDP started a Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Localisation initiative in 2016 to promote sustainable development and the implementation of The 2030 Agenda at the local level. By linking SDG implementation with China's national five-year plan and local development priorities, the initiative aims to help China seize development opportunities and solve development challenges, providing SDG-related policy recommendation, supporting the formulation of local government development plan, providing capacity building and developing pilot projects for local governments and exploring a cooperation modality between the public and private sector.



Training for Miao ethnic minority women in Kaili, Guizhou, site of a UNDP project to improve livelihoods based on unique cultural heritage.



2016

Supporting China's G20 Presidency



UNDP supported China's G20 presidency by offering policy recommendations and support during the planning phase. This included policy recommendations to China through the 2nd Global Governance Report entitled Rebalancing Global Economic Governance issued in June 2015, as well as continuous advisory efforts working closely with government-led G20 tracks.



Global leaders met at the G20 Hangzhou Summit to discuss pressing issues related to climate change and future economic cooperation.
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Former Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon (left 2) and Chinese President Xi Jinping (left 3) at the G20 Hangzhou Summit.
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2016

Measuring Poverty with Big Data in China

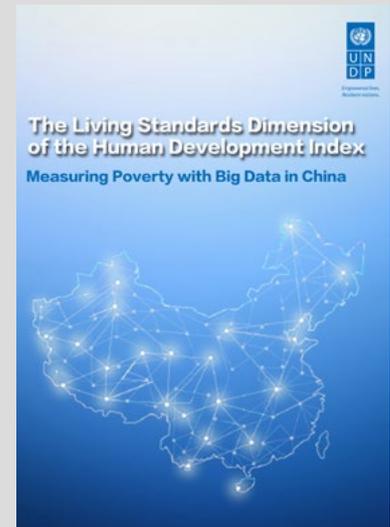
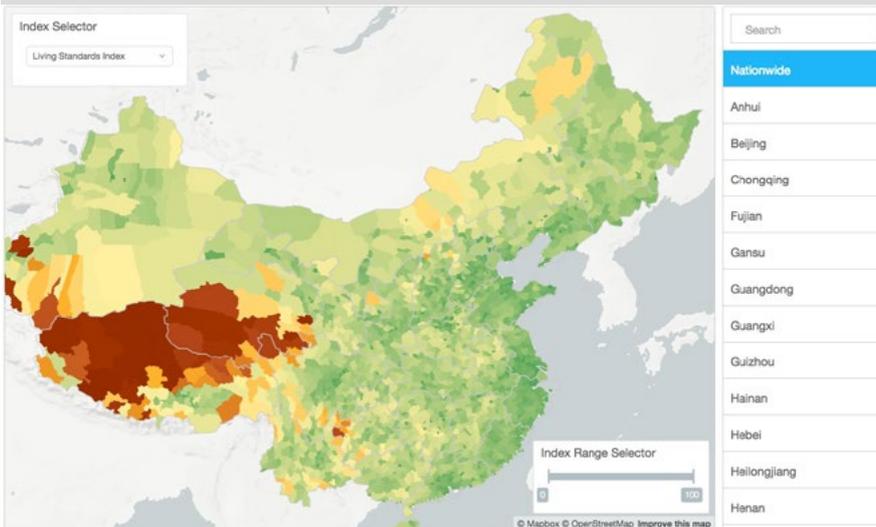


On the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty and China's National Poverty Reduction Day (October 17), UNDP launched a report entitled *The Living Standards Dimension of the Human Development Index*, which shares perspectives on the potential of Big Data as a powerful supplementary tool for measuring multidimensional poverty in China and embarks on the innovative research and measurement of poverty.

Partnering with Baidu, the report brings a measure called the Living Standard Dimension of the Human Development Index that addresses the multi-faceted and complex nature of poverty by combining eight indicators to evaluate the provision of services of 2,284 counties across the country. This complements the traditional household surveys that feed the national database and provides a useful reference for the formulation of poverty alleviation policies.

Interactive online visualization map provides instant access to data on 2,284 counties in China.

The Living Standards Dimension of the Human Development Report.





2016

Appointing Animal Ambassadors for the SDGs



In 2016, UNDP designated two twin panda cubs from Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding to officially become first-ever animal ambassadors for the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The cubs were officially named "QiQi" and "DianDian" through a global naming campaign. "Qi Dian" represents the starting point of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the global development path. "Qi" stands for "to inspire"—we need to inspire innovative thinking to meet the global challenges; "Dian" stands for "to ignite"—we strive to ignite the hope of creating a better future for all. The campaign, which lasted eight months, received more than 5000 names from enthusiastic netizens from 116 countries. These names carry the best wishes of the people, which will undoubtedly support the animal ambassadors in promoting the SDGs. In addition, 17 winners of the 'Panda Champions for Global Goals' campaign were selected from 14 countries. In early 2017, the 17 champions visited QiQi and DianDian at Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding, and are now taking action to raise awareness of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda in their own countries as SDGs advocates.



Zhang Zhihe, director of the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding, and former UNDP China Resident Representative Agi Veres at the panda ambassadors signing ceremony.



UNDP announces the names of the first-ever global sustainable development animal ambassadors as QiQi and DianDian at 2016 Social Good Summit.

UNDP Animal Ambassadors, twin panda cubs, QiQi and DianDian, at the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding in Sichuan, China.

2016

Assisted in the Establishment of SDG Innovation Pilot Zones



UNDP has been working with the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) since 2016 to support the State Council on the development of SDG Innovation Pilot Zones. Specifically, UNDP has been serving as a member to the Expert Committee of the SDG Pilot Zones Initiative, providing support on the establishment, approbation and partial implementation of the first batch of SDG Pilot Zones. Shenzhen, Guilin, and Taiyuan were initially selected by the State Council. Lincang, Chengde and Chenzhou were selected as the second batch of SDG Pilot Zones in 2019. As of 2019, significant progress has been made for the advancement of the SDGs as part of this initiative. Notably, UNDP is working with the Academy of Social Sciences on Shenzhen SDG Progress Report---the first SDG City-level Progress Report in Asia.



The city of Shenzhen, one of the SDG Innovation Pilot Zones.

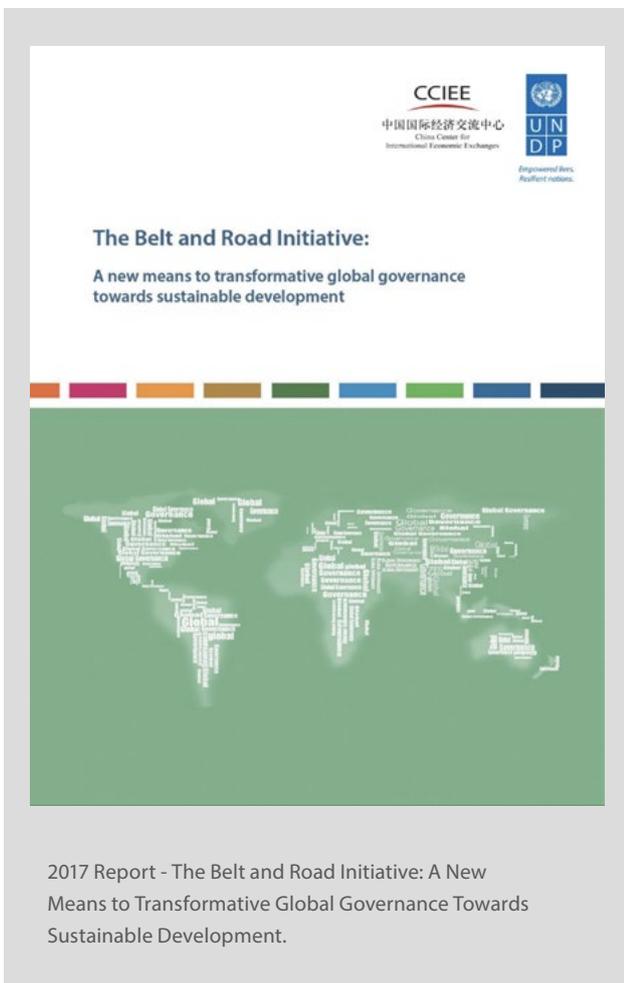


2016-Present

Facilitating Discussion on Global Governance and the Belt and Road Initiative



Starting in 2016, the Global Governance Initiative run in collaboration with the China Centre for International Economic Exchanges (CCIEE) began to explore the Belt and Road Initiative and its synergies with the existing global governance system and sustainable development. The topic of the latest 2018 forum in Guangzhou was financial cooperation and sustainable investment in Belt and Road partner countries to further the achievement of the SDGs, sustained economic growth, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The insights and ideas of the 2018 Global Governance Forum were further collected in a report, which fed into the critical thinking of the Belt and Road Forum in 2019.





The 2018 High Level Policy Forum on Global Governance held in Guangzhou.





2017

Supporting the First Belt and Road Forum on International Cooperation



During the first Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation (BRF) held in May of 2017, UNDP signed an Action Plan with the Chinese government to follow up on a 2016 MoU on BRI. The Action Plan aims to establish a framework for cooperation through information exchange, projects cooperation, policy coordination, building partnerships and capacity building. The second BRF was held in 2019 with the theme of “shaping a brighter shared future”.

António Guterres, UN Secretary-General, addresses the Opening Ceremony of the 2017 Belt and Road Forum, Beijing.







2017

Greening the Logistics Industry



In China, the logistics industry is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions. Freight transportation often uses trucks with low energy efficiency and low quality diesel. In Zhejiang Province, UNDP partnered with the Zhejiang Province Development and Reform Commission with funding from the Global Environment Facility, to reduce emissions stemming from the logistics industry through the application of green technology and promote energy efficient and environmentally friendly operation practices.

As part of this project, UNDP launched the Green Logistics Index to evaluate the logistics industry through carbon emission assessments and identify shortcomings. As the first logistics index in China, the green logistics index will provide improved policy recommendations for the government and enterprises to facilitate the establishment of a sound energy statistics system and improve operational management of the logistics industry.





The ceremony for the launch of the Green Logistics Index in Zhejiang.



2017

Strengthening Disaster Recovery Efforts through South-South Cooperation



The 21st century has been marked by an increase in recurrence and intensity of natural disasters across the globe. In 2017, the Government of China provided US\$17 million through the South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund, partnering with UNDP in support of the recovery and reconstruction efforts in five countries: Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, Antigua and Barbuda, and Commonwealth of Dominica. More than half a million people in these countries continue to benefit from post-disaster recovery assistance projects. For example, in the Caribbean, around 800 buildings were rebuilt including schools and hospitals following the back to back hurricanes of Irma and Maria.



UNDP implemented roof reconstruction project in the Commonwealth of Dominica, helping the country to rebuild after being devastated by Hurricane Maria.



Firefighter Otine Beazer and his family, one of the many families on Barbuda that UNDP helped to rebuild their homes following Hurricane Irma which damaged an estimated 90% of the properties on the island.



2018

Sharing Knowledge on Disaster Risk Reduction



On the 10th anniversary of the devastating Wenchuan Earthquake, UNDP helped to open the Chengdu Disaster Preparedness Learning Center to help raise awareness of disaster risk reduction and prevention as well as enhance capacity to respond to disasters. The centre is part of the overall Risk and Resilience Innovation Project run since 2016.

The project reinforces a commitment to knowledge sharing and disaster risk reduction practices, engaging decision makers, academia, the private sector, and civil society. The second stage of the project aims to transform the disaster-prone city of Ya’an into a resilient city, establishing it as a model for other cities in China and the world through the application of international experience and knowledge in disaster risk reduction.



The Disaster Preparedness Learning Center in Chengdu.



2019 Promoting the Development of a SDGs Impact Finance Modality



A major challenge in achieving the SDGs is figuring out how to finance them. Globally, delivery of the SDGs requires investment of between US\$5-7trillion annually. In response, UNDP launched an SDG Financing Platform promoting the development and expansion of sustainable finance in China.

The platform's aim is to develop operational guidelines and principles for SDGs impact finance and to eventually put forward SDG impact evaluation standards, together with a regulatory framework and policy suggestions. This initiative brings together regulators, academia, business representatives, investors, and social organizations to discuss aligning multiple standards to address one of the key challenges of measuring impact of finance: How to make impact-oriented investment and financing products more attractive for investors?



Former UNDP China Resident Representative Agi Veres speaking at the workshop on Financing for Sustainable Development.



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