

UNDP in China

Years to Remember

1979-Now



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*



Foreword

UNDP has been operating in China for over 37 years. 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 rare and special opportunity to reflect on how much has been achieved in the area of sustainable human development in China.

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

The milestones have been complied 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. A special thanks goes to MOFCOM, UNDP's window agency, for their continued support and engagement on development initiatives.

2017 marks two years since we adopted the global and transformational Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that will pave the way for a brighter and better future for all. We look forward to many more achievements in the future.

Agi Veres

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Agi Veres', with a stylized, cursive script.

Country Director, UNDP



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 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.



UNDP experts at the Wongnute pilot demonstration center, Inner Mongolia.



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



Mongolian girls ride in a horse-drawn cart to sell fresh milk produced at the Wongnute project site. ©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 were to follow, and between 1979 and 1984, China's agricultural productivity increased by 55%.



Wongnute pilot demonstration center, the site of UNDP China's first project. ©Xinhua

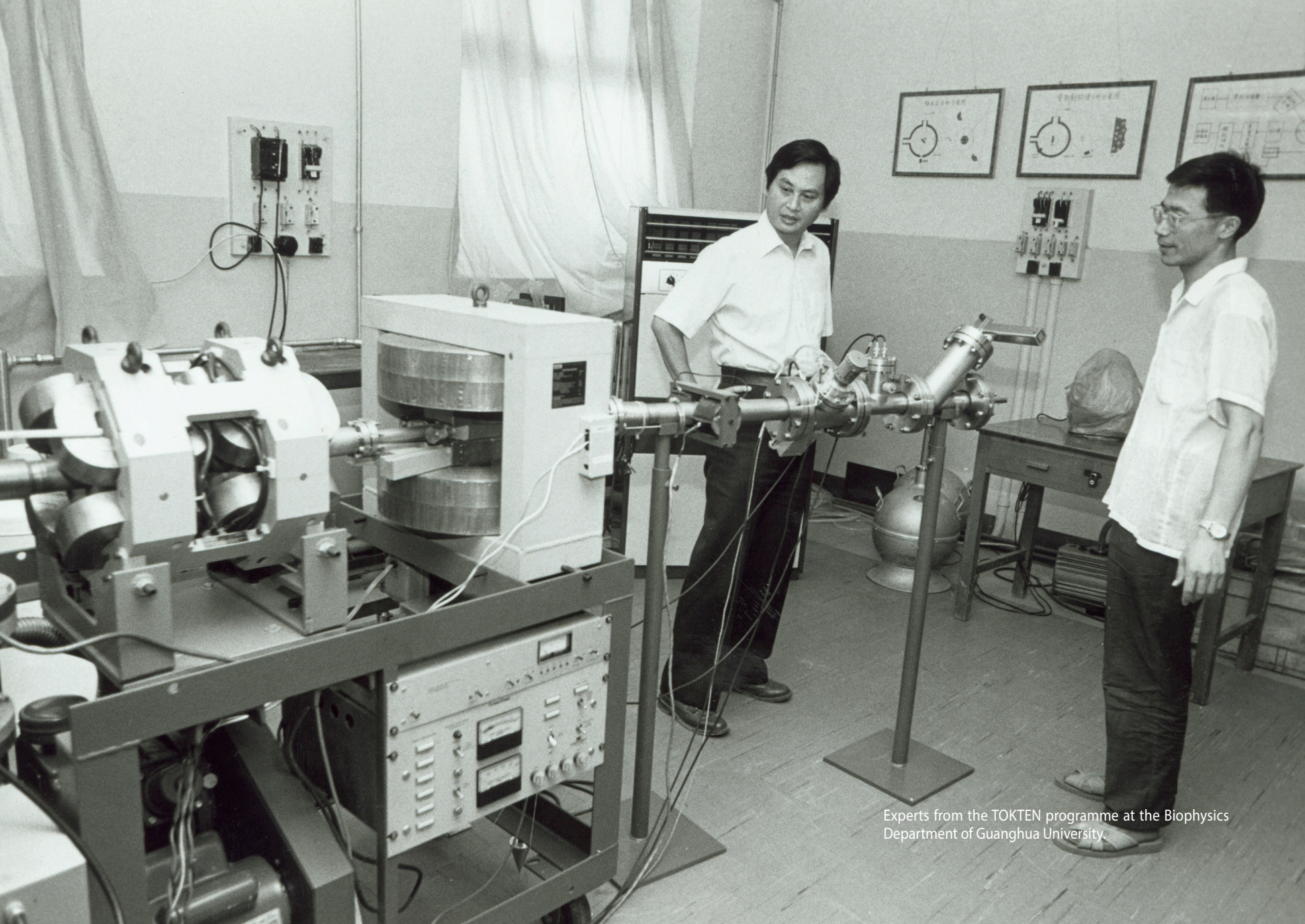




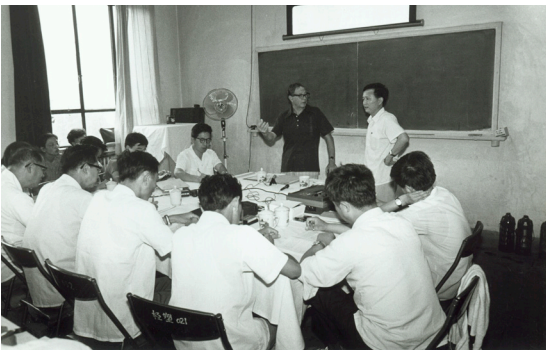
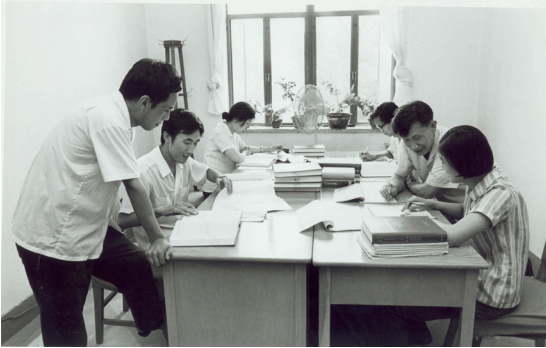
Former General-Secretary of the CPC, Mr. Jiang Zemin, gives a speech in 1990, at the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone. ©Xinhua

1980 Supporting the Special Economic Zones

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



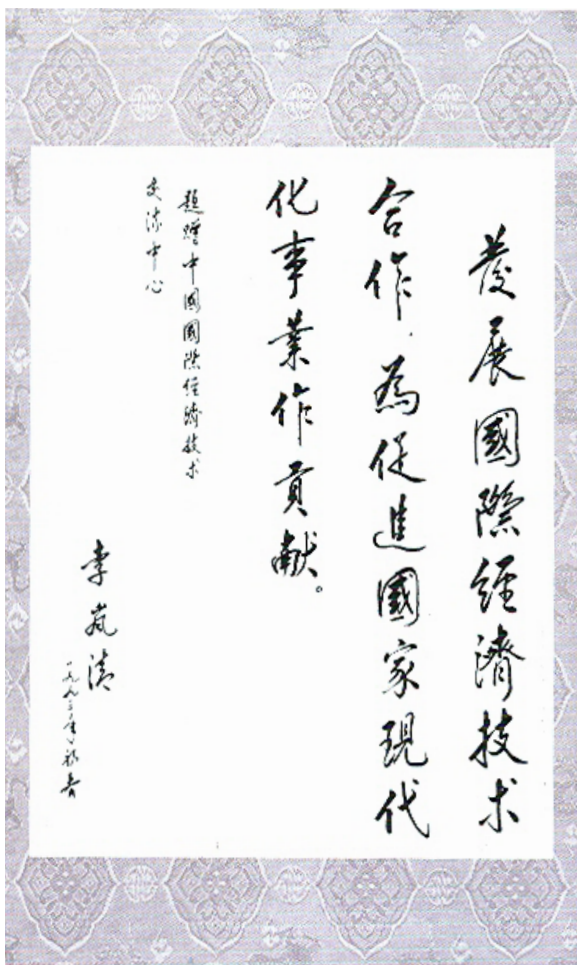
Experts from the TOKTEN programme at the Biophysics
Department of Guanghua University.



Participants in the TOKTEN programme at a hydrological research center.

1982 Chinese Expatriates Share Their Knowledge

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



中共中央政治局常委、国务院副总理李岚清为中心题词
Develop international economic and technical cooperation to make contributions to China's modernization drive. (Inscription by Mr. Li Lanqing Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the central Committee of CPC and Vice-premier of the State Council)



The inauguration ceremony of the CICETE.

1983 The Establishment of CICETE

The China International Centre 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.



Medical experts from developing countries receive training at the Chinese Traditional Medicine Center.

Early 1980s Regional Training Centers

During the First Country programme, over 1300 scientists and technicians from other developing countries received training at regional centres supported by UNDP. One of these was the Beijing Vegetable Research Centre, which developed pest and disease-resistant hybrids of many vegetables for China, and introduced a number of new food varieties for cultivation in the Beijing area, such as broccoli, five different kinds of lettuce, and Japanese watermelon and cantaloupe.



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 center for middle and senior level government officials.



1988 Reforming the Social Security System

Starting in 1978, the Chinese Government decided to start the massive task of restructuring the Social Security System to bring it in line with a market oriented economy. UNDP, in collaboration with the International Labour Organization, helped establish 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 internships for senior government officials to study social security and wage policies in a variety of countries.





Training session for civil servants



1989-1994 Civil Service Reform

A UNDP project laid the groundwork for a new approach to Civil Service reform, featuring breakthrough efforts to separate political cadres from the regulation of career civil servants and 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 the West

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 (including minority 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 to reach 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. The GEF has become a major source of funding for a wide variety of projects implemented by UNDP.





First public fuel-cell bus in China produced with funding 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 conform to international standards. This project was continued and enlarged in the China/UNDP Third Country Programme. China is now rapidly becoming the world's nuclear power leader with 32 nuclear plants to be built by 2020 and an estimated 300 more by 2050.



1991-1992 Disaster Relief in Anhui

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.





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 Developing 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 and the State Planning Commission to formulate and implement China's Agenda 21 at the national level, stressing coordinated sustainable development of economy, society, resources, and environment.



中华人民共和国
预算法手册

财政部条法司 编



出席证



杨天全

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



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

1992 Reforming the Economic Legal System

UNDP and CICETE launched a major project to assist the Legislative Affairs office of the State Council to organize and lead 19 government ministries and departments in the establishment of a new economic legal system. As a result, Chinese legislation was automated and 23 major economic laws were drafted, including the Budget Law, Foreign Trade Law, Banking Law and Securities Law.

1992 Modernizing China's Customs Service

UNDP assisted the General Administration of Customs to begin an extensive modernization of China's customs service. The time needed for processing customs clearance documents has been reduced from 22 days to 22 seconds, which has greatly contributed to China's trade and economic development. The current emphasis of the programme is on establishing a secure and efficient customs management system for the CGA 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 organizations 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.





A community workshop on HIV/AIDS.



A family missing a generation due to AIDS.



An AIDS orphan.



©UNAIDS

1993 Combating HIV/AIDS

UNDP 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 was innovative in that it 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 to publicize the effect of HIV/AIDS, and with the Ministry of Railways to implement a mass awareness campaign on 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 Centre to conduct research on the potential economic impact of HIV/AIDS in China.

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.





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



Mr. Muhammad Yunus, founder of the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh, which provides microcredit to impoverished individuals, meets with UNDP staff during one of his visits to China.



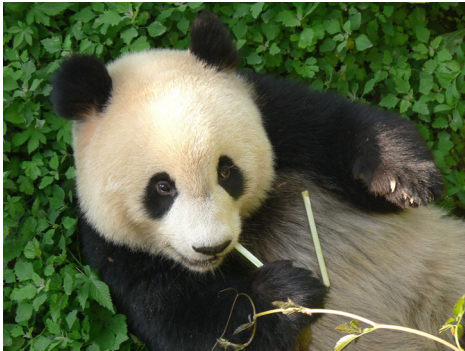
Wang Yue, former Director of the CICETE, visiting Ganzi County in Sichuan Province, where the microfinance project was implemented.



Delegates from Bangladesh's Grameen Bank speak with villagers in Tibet about microfinance.

Early 1990s Introducing Microfinance to China

UNDP was one of the first organizations to pilot microfinance in China. The programme developed into a large initiative spreading 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. Parallel to the funds, borrowers have been given training in business as well as life skills to help them realize their full potential. Organized in small groups, they have met regularly to support each other, exchange ideas and make sure that everyone is making progress. In this way, the social capital that the poor do own can be strengthened and used to help them grow. 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 minorities, who have gained not only credit but the stature and freedom that greater economic independence entails.



©John MacKinnon



©John MacKinnon

1994 The Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan

In collaboration with the National Environment Protection Agency (now the Ministry of Environment Protection Agency), the World Bank and CICETE and with financial 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 **Curbing Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

In collaboration with the World Bank, CICETE and a wide array of partners from government, think tanks and local agencies and with the financial support of the GEF, UNDP assisted in formulating a policy document entitled China: Issues and Options in Greenhouse Gas Emissions Control. This has been an important initiative, identifying the key greenhouse gas emission sectors, their impact on development, and options for future abatement.

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 the monetary, 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.



Closing Ceremony of the Green Refrigerators Programme, 1999.



A public service advertisement at a bus stop promoting green refrigerators.



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

1999 Promoting Green Fridges

UNDP launched a campaign to promote energy-efficient CFC free refrigerators. The award winning campaign introduced innovative market incentives targeted at both refrigerator manufacturers and retailers. The campaign lasted for 5 years, during which time it dramatically increased the number of "green" refrigerators sold from 1,000 units in 1999 to 40 million in 2005.



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 Province, 40 solar power stations were built, generating 494.8 kilowatts to 15,000 residents in 37 villages in 2002 and 2003.

1999 Capacity Building for the Commercialization of Renewable Energy in China

Through 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 primary barriers to promising renewable energy technologies.





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 has made enormous progress towards achieving the MDGs. In particular, between 1990 and 2008, the number of poor people in China has fallen by more than 300 million, a great contribution to the global progress toward MDG 1 (to halve the proportion of people living on less than US \$1 per day). In fact it is clear that without China's accomplishments in poverty reduction, it would be impossible for the world to achieve this target. UNDP has supported China in its work towards the MDGs through advocacy, analysis, monitoring and operational activities.

2001 China Joins the WTO

China's admission to the World Trade Organization 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, UNDP's effort to enhance the capacity of the China Patent and Trade Mark Office to handle intellectual property matters at an international standard proved especially useful to China's accession to the WTO.

2001-2005 Assisting the Fight against Corruption

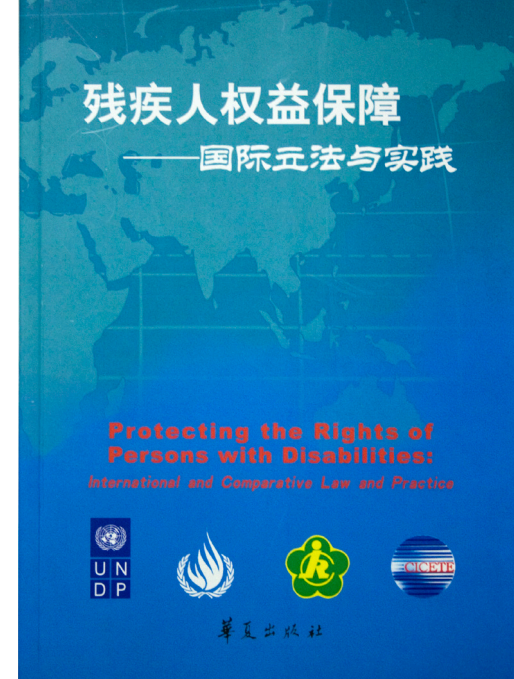
UNDP helped establish good governance systems to effectively curb corruption. This included national integrity systems and codes of conduct for officials. Advisory reports and policy proposals on anti-corruption to relevant state organs strengthened the legal framework and mechanism for combating corruption.



Mr. Long Yongtu (far right), former Deputy Head of the Chinese Delegation and Chief negotiator of MOFERT, celebrates the admission of China to the WTO with other members of the delegation. ©Xinhua



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 and CICETE and 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 assisting the work of rights protection workers, researchers, government officials and legal practitioners in China.



A female worker at a plant producing energy-efficient bricks. ©Deng Jian/Xinhua News Agency

2005 The End Use Energy Efficiency Programme

UNDP, in partnership with the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), the Ministry of Construction, CICETE, and with financial support from the Global Environment Facility, took a lead role in developing the broad and inclusive End Use Energy Efficiency Programme (EUEEP). EUEEP fosters a strategic approach to developing, implementing, and enforcing a comprehensive energy conservation policy and regulatory system in China. The programme will promote energy efficiency in industry and buildings. UNDP's efforts thus far have included cooperating with architecture design companies to provide solar powered buildings, energy efficient construction materials, and other eco design solutions. Also, UNDP has introduced and popularized eco-labeling in China through large public campaigns and events so that consumers have more choices in low carbon products. At the end of the planned 12-year programme, the cumulative carbon emissions reductions will be about 76 million tonnes (equivalent to 279 million tonnes of CO₂).



2005 The International Poverty Reduction Center

Along with the State Council Leadership Group on Reduction and Development (LGOP) and CICETE, UNDP initiated and supported the establishment of the International Poverty Reduction Centre in China (IPRCC), aimed at creating a global knowledge hub on poverty reduction. The IPRCC has since provided 440 government officials and experts from 74 developing countries with training on poverty reduction and sustainable development.



©John MacKinnon



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2005 The China Biodiversity Partnership Framework

UNDP, in partnership with the State Environmental Protection Administration (now the Ministry of Environment Protection) and CICETE, and with financial 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 organizations.



©EU-Chin Biodiversity Programme



©EU-Chin Biodiversity Programme

2005 The EU-China Biodiversity Programme

UNDP 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 has, to date, succeeded in drafting biodiversity targets for 2010, and implementing 17 field projects. Also, China's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan is currently being drafted with wide stakeholder participation.



Swan lake in the Yellow River ©Yang Shufang



Autumn in Kanasu ©Abulikemu



2005 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. Under the project, six provinces – Qinghai Province, Sichuan Province, Hunan Province, Jilin Province, Jiangsu Province and Yunnan – were selected as pilot sites to undertake assessment of Xiaokang goals and indicators at the provincial level. Findings from the programme will be used to support the formulation of development strategies such as China's 12th Five-Year Plan. Major inputs will be provided to the development of long term development vision of China.



2005 Promoting Urban Development in China

In partnership with the China Urban Planning Institute and CICETE, UNDP launched a publication entitled *Observations on China's Urban Development*. This publication included in-depth and cross-sectoral analysis and recommendations on sustainable urban planning and management, public safety and crisis management, equitable social development and people-centered public administration. The publication won the ISOCARP Award for Excellence granted by the International Society of City and Regional Planners in 2008.

2005-2007 Capacity Building for China's Leaders on the "Xiaokang" Vision

When the Government redefined its national development vision to "Xiaokang," or all-around, balanced and good society for all in 2003, 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 Xiao Kang society, many of which were incorporated into the 11th Five Year Plan.

2005-2008 Umbrella Programme to Support 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, the Ministry of Justice and CICETE 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



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



2006 Award for International Cooperation for 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.



TTF participants presenting their produce. ©Stephen Shaver/Bloomberg News



UNDP teams up with the local government to help Guangxi farmers recover from the snow disaster.

2006 Innovative Technologies for Poverty Alleviation

The UNDP Technical Task Force (TTF) programme was established. The TTF programme is 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 project also focuses on introducing market mechanisms to traditional agriculture in rural China. Total funding for the programme is US \$7.4 million. Over the past three years the project has been scaled up to cover 31 provinces and 75,000 TTF personnel have been dispatched to implement it. Since 2008, 1 million farmers have benefited from the project each year, with an average annual income rise of 10%.



A TTF practitioner introduces mushroom-growing technologies.



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.



UNDP visits the legal aid station in Shaanxi.

2007 Legal Aid for Migrant Workers

UNDP, supported by the Government of Belgium, launched a one-year project with the All China Lawyers Association and CICETE 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.



It is hoped that a carbon finance scheme will encourage Chinese enterprises to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and use energy efficient technologies.



2007 Piloting Carbon Trading

UNDP, the Ministry of Science and Technology and CICETE worked together to implement the programme “Carbon finance for achieving MDGs in China.” This three-year, US \$1.7million initiative aims to pilot carbon trading in 12 provinces, build capacity and provide policy input for the expansion of the carbon market and the reduction of greenhouse gas emission in China. Carbon finance schemes will help alleviate poverty and will become a new way of developing the renewable energy sector in west China.



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 is the first comprehensive initiative of its type. It simultaneously addresses key issues and concerns in three arenas: 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 organizations in China.

2008 Promoting “Green” Olympic Games and Volunteerism

UNDP supported the Beijing Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games (BOCOG) to work towards a clean and green 2008 Olympic Games. This large-scale effort included the development of eight public service announcements on climate change, biodiversity and water featuring former Chinese gold medalists. In addition, four clean energy buses were provided to serve as official transport for all athletes between the Olympic venues and the Village. These buses were integrated into the Beijing public transportation system after the Games. Furthermore, UNDP and United Nations Volunteers (UNV) co-hosted a celebration with BOCOG to recognize the service of Beijing’s volunteers at which the Beijing Volunteers Association received the “UN China Certificate of Recognition for Distinctive Volunteer Service Organization.” The receipt of this award was later named one of the top ten social issues impacting Chinese society in 2008 by the Ministry of Civil Affairs and Tsinghua University.

The Beijing Olympic Volunteer Celebration, 2008. ©Wang Yongji/Xinhua





Mr. Yang Haitao, who sang for the Paralympic opening, gives a performance during the UNDP advocacy event 2008.



Ms. Tai Lihua, Director of the China Disabled People's Performing Art Troupe (CDPPAT), teaches sign language to the audience: "Participation, Sports and Development". ©Wang Yongji/Xinhua



Ms. Tang Xiaoquan, President of the China Disabled Persons' Federation (CDPF), addresses the audience on behalf of Mr. Deng Pufang, Chairman of the CDPF, 2008.

2008 Advancing the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

UN China and the China Disabled Persons' Federation jointly hosted an advocacy event in Beijing, held in conjunction with the 13th Paralympics, to highlight issues of disability and the UN Convention on Disability. During the event, the United Nations recognized the exemplary deeds of outstanding persons with disabilities and people who devoted themselves to promoting the rights of persons with disabilities.



Influenced by global climate change, Glacier No.1 in Xinjiang's Tianshan mountains is retreating at the speed of about eight meters per year. ©Xinhua



Water sampling in the E-ling lake.



UN experts checking the status of a ground water monitoring well.



Examining a water sample from a water monitoring well.



2008 The Joint Programme to Tackle Climate Change

UN China, with substantial support from the 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 organizations or sub-national 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 and was the only programme under the Spanish MDG Achievement Fund which was granted the maximum funding allocation (US \$12 million) possible. 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 the carbon budget. These findings were presented at an official Side Event to the UN Climate Change Conference COP-14, in Poland in December 2008.

2009 Promoting Green Lights

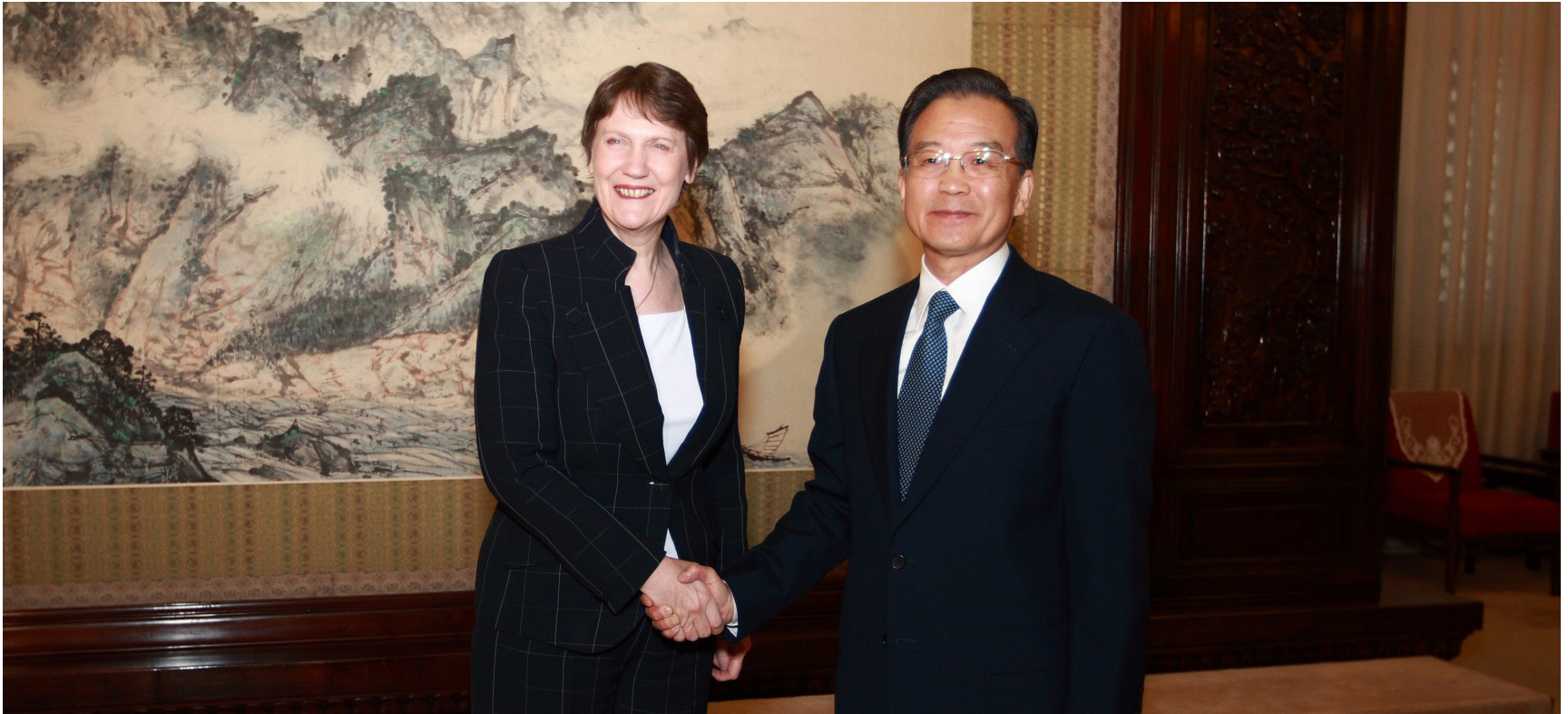
UNDP and National Development and Reform Commission launched the US\$ 87 million Green Lights programme, aiming to phase out all incandescent light bulbs in China and replace them with energy efficient bulbs within three years. The projected savings in national energy consumption is 8%.



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



Signing of the Green Lights Programme document.



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

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 China has supported China's efforts for positive engagement on global



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

2010 Building Back Better and Greener

The 2008 Sichuan Earthquake affected more than 40 million people, leading to over 69,000 deaths. 18,000 people are still missing. 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. With its already long-standing presence in China, UNDP was uniquely placed to assist.

UNDP's rehabilitation programmes covered areas including livelihood rehabilitation, legal support and social services. In addition, the UNDP ramped up energy and environmental planning and promoted community-based disaster risk management.



Daily life in Qinghe Village. ©Yan Lu



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



A Zhejiang local resident displaying an energy efficient brick.



A new dwelling in Hebei constructed using energy efficient bricks.

2011 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. Energy use is expected to triple between 2000 and 2020m and this increase is only compounded by Chinese buildings' low energy efficiency. Furthermore, 60% of China's buildings are also in rural areas. These buildings are made from clay bricks, which have poor insulation and require more energy to produce. The Energy Efficient (EE) 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 promulgated on April 1, 2012. EE bricks and building information systems have been created, footage shot for advocacy and training, and various smaller information dissemination activities carried out. Techniques and best practices from the project have already been replicated in other rural areas.



UNDP China Deputy Director Patrick Haverman meets with industry and government stakeholders to launch Phase I of the HCFC phase-out.

2011 Montreal Protocol Launch of Phase I HCFC phase-out

China ratified the Montreal Protocol on Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) in 1991, and in doing so committed to complying with ODS phase out targets. The XIXth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol in September 2007 adopted an accelerated phase-out schedule for HCFCs, highlighting their Ozone Depleting Potential (ODP) and Global Warming Potential (GWP).

This sector plan is on track to meet the phase-out target of 7,971 metric tonnes (439 ODP tonnes) of HCFC consumption and will contribute to China's compliance with the 2013 and 2015 control targets, equal to an emissions reduction of 7.66 million tonnes of CO₂ annually.

The stakeholders in HCFC solvent production, sales, consumption and local government administration have been well informed of the nature of the strategic HCFC phase out plan at both sector and national level through stakeholder meetings. Moreover, potential beneficiary enterprises who consume HCFCs have received specific training to supply knowledge on how to participate in and successfully implement the phase-out scheme.



Before and after replacement of cleaning apparatus in Zhejiang Kindly Medical Devices Co.Ltd.

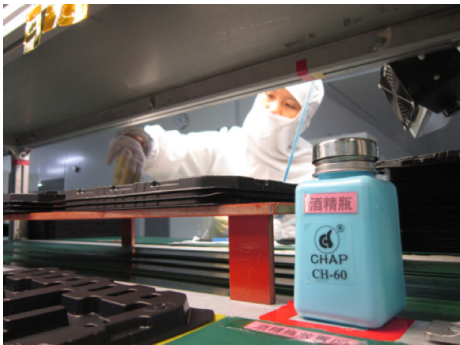


2011

Phasing Out Harmful Chemicals to Protect Ozone Layer

UNDP and the Foreign Economic Cooperation Office (FECO) of the Ministry of Environmental Protection worked together on reducing the consumption of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) such as HCFCs to contribute to the global efforts of protecting Ozone Layer according to the Montreal Protocol.

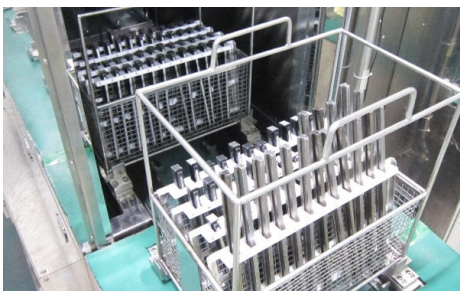
By replacing the harmful chemicals in the Industrial and Commercial Refrigeration and Air Condition Sector and Solvent Sector in the production processes, UNDP has helped reduce China's HCFC consumption by more than 500 ODP tonnes per year, and eliminated 8 million tons of potential greenhouse gas emissions (CO₂ equivalent emission). Those efforts helped China meet its ODS phase-out targets in 2015 ahead of time.



Workers using OSD-Free Solvent to clean the glass chips in Tianma Ltc. Shenzhen



Workers manually cleaning apparatus at Zhejiang Kindly Medical Devices Co. Ltd.



The crystal liquids sticks cleaned by the automatic cleaning machines using ODS-free solvents



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 environmental destruction victims lacked knowledge of their environmental rights and ways to seek legal redress, and many Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) were not legally recognized as qualified plaintiffs to bring a case against another in a court of law. UNDP brought together global expertise and best practices with legal training to stakeholders on promoting awareness and actions on protection of the public's environmental rights, especially in strengthening civil litigation 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. There have been major breakthroughs in advancing 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 2032: The Future We Want

A new public service film entitled 2032: The Future We Want was designed to draw on the convening power of Rio+20. The five minute film included powerful expressions of hope and inspiration from people across China, whose messages were broadcast to state leaders and a global audience during the 2012 UN summit. The film contains a special message from UNDP Goodwill Ambassador Zhou Xun and 232 participants, who answered “what do you want the world to be like in twenty years”. Ranging from the young to the elderly, students to professionals, and from ethnic minorities to migrant workers in big cities, the video provided a poignant reminder of the role that individuals can play in shaping the world we want to live in.



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



UNDP and MOFCOM representatives give a training session to Cambodian farmers on cassava planting and pest control. (2014 monitoring mission)

2013 Cultivating Cambodia's Cassava Sector

UNDP, alongside China's Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) and Cambodia's Ministry of Agriculture, 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.



CPC Commission representatives sign legislation to abolish re-education through labour in China.



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

2013 Abolition of the Re-education Through Labour System

UNDP China assisted the government in abolishing the Re-education Through Labour system (RTL), 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 Judicial Reform Office of the CPC Commission of Political and Legal Affairs and directly informed the decision to abolish the RTL system, affecting 60,000 people detained in 350 camps countrywide.

2012-2016 High-Level Policy Forum on Global Governance Forums

In 2012 UNDP and China launched an initiative on Global Governance, with the objective to generate creative thinking from developing countries. Co-organised by UNDP and the China Centre for International Economic Exchanges (CCIEE), a think tank affiliated with the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), the forum discussed "Is Global Governance advancing or receding in an interdependent world: Perspectives of developing countries". Since then, a further three forums have been hosted with the most recent focusing on the Belt and Road Initiative-themed "Belt and Road, New Path to Regional Development." At the 2017 Belt and Road Forum on International Cooperation (BRF) in Beijing, the flagship 2017 third Global Governance Report was announced. The report explores the potential contribution of the Belt and Road Initiative to a sustainable development-centered global governance agenda.



Rebalancing Global Economic Governance Report



High-Level Policy Forums on Global Governance in 2012 and 2014.



UNDP Asia&Pacific Regional Director Haoliang Xu speaks at the 2016 Forum



A workshop with community-based organisations, teaching key skills and sharing experiences on capacity building.



2014 Building Capacity From the Ground Up

UNDP China pioneered its first massive open online course (MOOC), targeting grassroots organizations and training 1,794 participants across China in basic Civil Society Organisation (CSO) management and outreach skills.



A DDT production plant.



Demonstrating antifouling paint on ship hulls.



Employee producing DDT-alternative antifouling paint in Zhejiang flying whale paint factory

2014 Top of the POPs: Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) Reduction

UNDP has supported the Ministry of Environmental Protection and the Ministry of Agriculture in implementing Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) reduction initiatives and enhancing public awareness as part of a global effort to reduce POPs, a key component of the Stockholm Convention.

These initiatives included DDT insecticide reduction initiative. Spread along China's coastline are 300,000 fishing vessels. These vessels consume 10,000 tonnes of antifouling paint, which is often laced with DDT. As such, the vessels leave trails of harmful POPs in the water and pollute China's marine ecosystems. To tackle this problem, DDT pollution was reduced by introducing 24 new paint alternatives, with 864 tonnes produced with the help of UNDP.

In addition, in 2015 UNDP and its governmental counterpart, the Foreign Economic cooperation Office (FECO) under the Ministry of Environmental Protection, rolled out an international campaign against the 23 POPs to celebrate 10 years of successful POPs project implementation in China and abroad.





A collection of images from renewable energy project sites in Zambia and Ghana showing implementation of wind Solar panels turbines.

2014 South-South Cooperation

In collaboration with UNDP, China's Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), the Department of Energy (DoE) in Zambia and the Energy Commission in Ghana, two new trilateral projects on renewable energy were developed in Ghana and Zambia. The projects represent some of the first examples of triangular South-South cooperation between China and African countries. Electricity was available to only 40% of rural residents in Ghana and 3% of rural residents in Zambia, making renewable energy a priority for the governments of both countries.



Energy efficient central power systems

2014 Tackling E-waste on Mobile

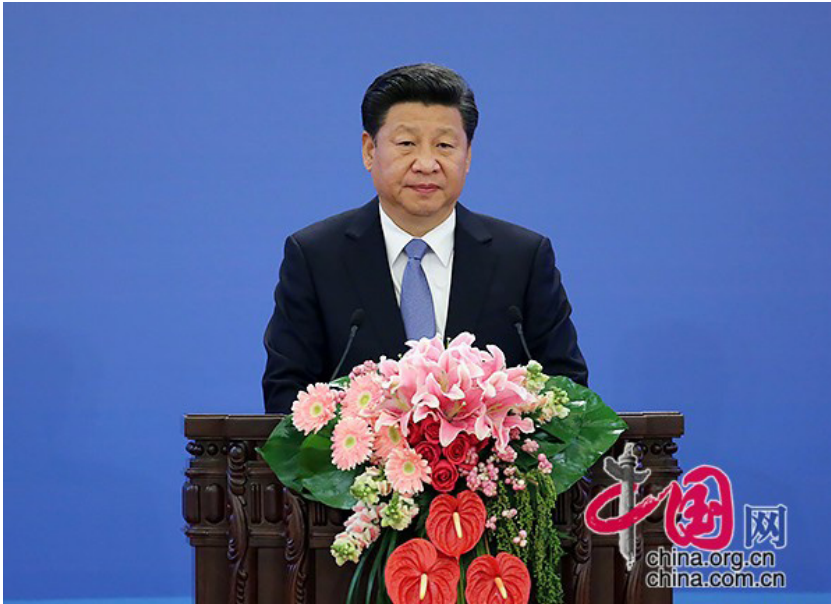
With an understanding of the challenge E-waste poses, UNDP China worked with internet company Baidu to develop a smartphone application called Baidu Recycle. The app helps users price and recycle their electronic products by introducing legitimate E-waste pick-up services, helping to streamline the recycling process and cutting down informal recycling stations. In 2016, an international workshop on e-waste management was also held, with participants from over 13 countries attending including India, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Vietnam, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Jordan, Mexico, Maldives, Egypt and Zambia. They came to Beijing for a three-day workshop 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.



An E-waste processing facility in Tianjin.



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.



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 offering UNDP's support.

2015 President Xi Announces New Poverty Strategy

In 2015, to broaden the impact of International Poverty Eradication Day and raise public awareness on public involvement in poverty reduction, the International Poverty Reduction Centre in China (IPRCC), UNDP and other organizations jointly organized the Global Poverty Reduction and Development Forum (10.17 Forum). The theme was "Common Development through Joint Shared Efforts on Poverty Eradication". Chinese President Xi Jinping attended the Plenary Session and delivered a keynote speech on China's strategy and targets for poverty alleviation. In his video message, former UN Secretary General (SG) Ban Ki-moon recognized the declaration made by China to ensure the entire population living in poverty in China would be lifted above the poverty line by 2020. As the special representative of the UN SG, 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 China has the opportunity to mainstream the SDGs into its five-year plan for 2016-2020.



Workshop with ethnic minority communities on capacity building and inclusivity in Tibet.



Local beekeepers and visiting representatives share knowledge on bee hive management.

2015 Ensuring Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits from Using Genetic Resources

While ethnic minorities and communities in the remote areas possess great knowledge of the local species and their genetic resources, the local community rarely obtain financial benefits from the utilization of such resources for research and commercial purposes.

In collaboration with the Foreign Economic Cooperation Office (FECO) of the Ministry of Environmental Protection, funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), UNDP initiated China's first project to implement the Nagoya Protocol to help China establish a sound system for applying the "Access to and Benefit Sharing" principle. This has ensured fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from the utilization of genetic resources, as per the Convention on Biological Diversity.

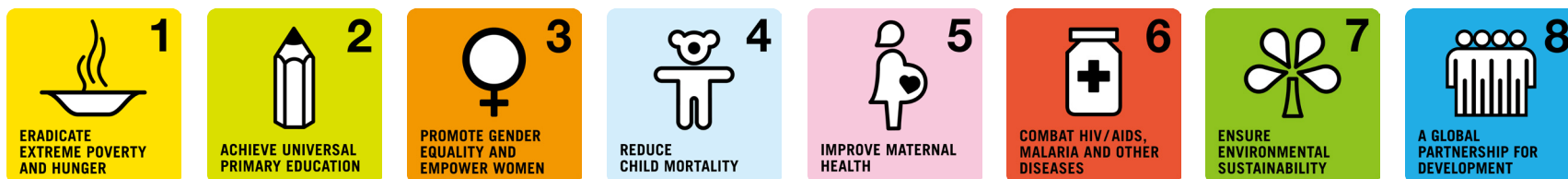
2015 Final Millennium Development Goals Report

China attached great importance to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Between 2000-2005, through the combined efforts of the Chinese government, civil society and international community, China made notable progress in many areas, including poverty alleviation and hunger, universal primary education, healthcare for women and children, disease prevention and environmental protection. As a responsible major developing country, China has also offered support and help to other developing countries in their implementation of the MDGs. In the process of advancing these goals, the Chinese Government has conducted active exploration of various practices based on its national context and rich development experience, forging a development path with Chinese characteristics.

The final MDGs report outlined these achievements, and provided an introduction to the post-2015 agenda and the 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs).



Report on China's Implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (2000-2015).



The Millennium Development Goals focused on eight key goals for achieving sustainable development

2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

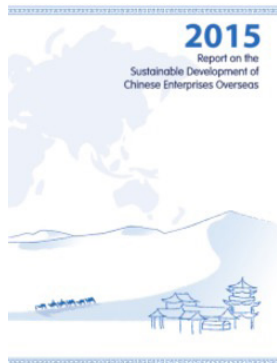


Building on the successes of the Millennium Development Goals, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. They address new areas such as climate change, economic inequality, sustainable consumption, peace and justice, and more. Adopted by all 193 UN Member States in September 2015, the SDGs are 17 ambitious goals with 169 targets that will guide UNDP policy and funding into 2030.

The SDGs recognize that our global goals 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 the SDGs in its national development plan. Now, UNDP is working closely with the Chinese government to support SDGs implementation and make sure no-one is left behind.

2015 - 2017 Working with Chinese Enterprises

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. Subsequently, the 2015 Report on the Sustainable Development of Chinese Enterprises Overseas provided an overview of Chinese investments and recommendations for sustainable practices abroad.



2017 REPORT ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF CHINESE ENTERPRISES OVERSEAS
Supporting the Belt and Road Regions to Achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

 **UNDP**
Economic and Social Development

 **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**
Filling the SDG Finance Gap

Global sustainable development requires financial resources, but currently there exists a huge funding gap

Achieving the SDGs in developing countries alone will require investment in the range of **\$3.3-\$4.5 trillion annually**
(World Investment Report 2016)

The Addis Ababa Action Agenda states that developing countries have an annual infrastructure gap of **US \$1 trillion to US \$1.5 trillion**

US \$8 trillion of infrastructure investment is needed at least in order for the infrastructure in Asian economies to reach the global standards by 2020.
(Asian Development Bank estimate)

#BeltandRoad  

2015 Weaving Into Happiness

Since 2006, UNDP has been working with the Chinese government to test needs-based poverty reduction in ethnic minority areas, bearing in mind the distinctive socioeconomic features of minorities. Tailor-made capacity building activities were conducted for ethnic communities, sharing knowledge on best practices for utilising their unique cultural resources to generate income. Since 2011, UNDP has developed an increasing number of private sector partnerships to support ethnic communities in China, focusing on addressing barriers such as remote market access and raising public awareness of the importance of preserving ethnic cultural diversity.

Weaving into Happiness has engaged private sector and social organizations in publicizing and promoting culture-based development for ethnic minorities. It has established ethnic women's community based organizations (CBOs) with sustainable business mechanisms, and partnerships with modern markets including the fashion industry.

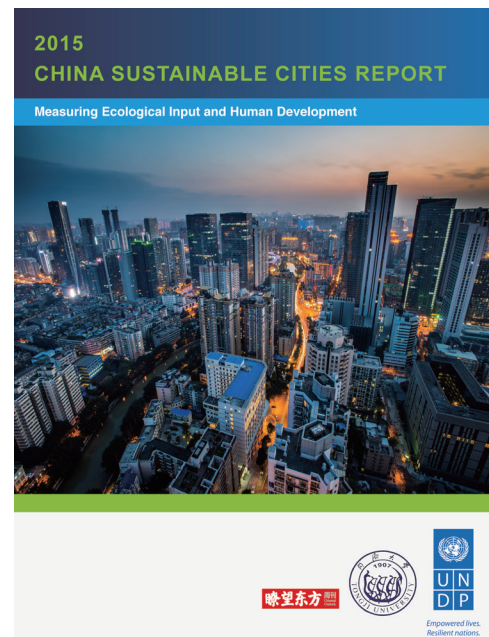
Implementing this project has helped raise public awareness of gender inequality, improving the livelihoods of ethnic minority groups -- especially women. In addition, the project has created jobs through the embroidery industry while simultaneously preserving the role of embroidery in ethnic minorities' cultural heritage.



Raising awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals and engaging local communities in ethnic minority areas is essential for achieving local progress towards the SDGs.



UN Resident Coordinator Nicholas Rossellini speaking at the 2016 Forum on City Happiness and Sustainability in China.



The China Sustainable Cities Report 2015.

2013-2016 Fostering a Human Approach to Sustainable Cities

Since 2013 UNDP China has been conducting research into sustainable cities across China. The reports have evaluated Chinese cities' performance in sustainable human development and aim to solve the urban development challenges facing 35 Chinese cities, using UNDP's Human Development Index (HDI) and Urban Ecological Input Index (EUII). The reports have emphasized Chinese cities must take a human-centred approach that fosters human development within ecological limits.

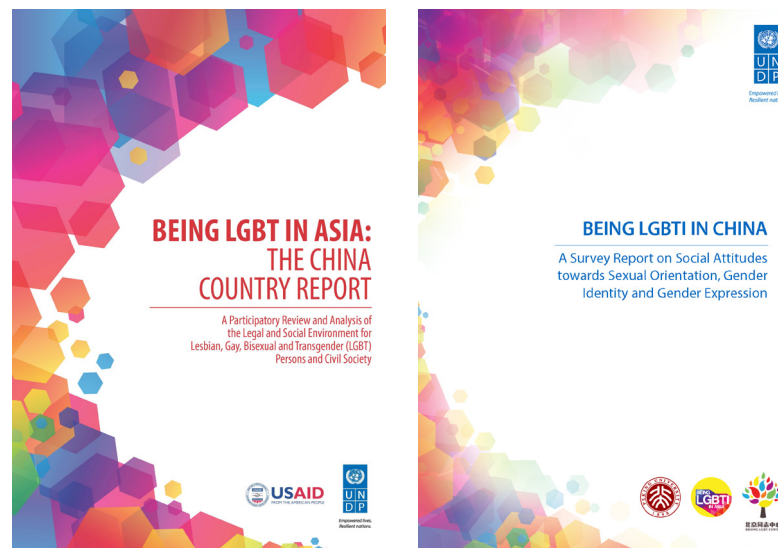
2014-2016 National Report: Being LGBT in Asia

The first national report on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) issues in China was launched in 2014 and commended positive steps such as the abolishment of laws used to intimidate LGBT individuals, and highlighted a positive growth in the LGBT civil society, changing societal attitudes and a growing interest from academic institutions on LGBT-related research and policy discussions.

"Being LGBTI (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex) in China – A National Survey on Social Attitudes towards Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression (SOGIE)" is a report 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. It also examines social attitudes towards LGBTI people, including discrimination and unfair treatment.



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 (Right).



Ms. Helen Clark, former Administrator of UNDP, and Mr. Xu Shaoshi, Chairman of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC).

2016 The Belt and Road Initiative: Collaboration for Sustainable Development

UNDP and the People's Republic of China signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on cooperation on the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) on the margins of the 71st United Nations General Assembly during Premier Li Keqiang's visit. The MOU, signed by Ms. Helen Clark, former Administrator of UNDP, and Mr. Xu Shaoshi, Chairman of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), was a strategic cooperation framework that aims to enhance collaboration between UNDP and the Chinese government for the implementation of the BRI and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2016 Envisioning a Future with Zero Emission

For more than a decade, UNDP has been working on promoting a hydrogen-based clean energy solution.

Together with the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), UNDP has been working on the development of hydrogen fuel cell vehicles (FCV) 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 started the first Hydrogen Economy pilot project in Rugao city, Jiangsu province, together with the China International Center for Economic and Technical Exchanges (CICETE), with the goal of realizing an economic model that relies fully on hydrogen as the main power source to meet the energy demand of the society.



UNDP Goodwill Ambassador Michelle Yeoh showcases a Fuel Cell city bus at UNDP China compound.



A roadside billboard advertisement for UNDP Hydrogen Economy Cities.



Opening ceremony for the first Hydrogen Economy pilot in Rugao City.

2016 Localising the SDGs

UNDP China started a Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Localisation initiative in 2016 to promote sustainable development at the local level. Local level development has been a pivotal contributor to national achievements. By linking SDGs implementation with China's national five-year plan and regional development priorities, the initiative aims to help China seize development opportunities and solve development challenges, bringing in partners from both the public and private sector together through SDGs orientation, consultation, implementation and SDGs Seal Certification.

UNDP launched its first ever massive open online course (MOOC) on sustainable development goals, targeting local officials. The MOOC is an interactive and free online course that introduces participants to the 17 SDGs and the progress of each Goal in China over 19 modules. The modules explore the opportunities and challenges for achieving the Goals in China, and provides initial recommendations for policy makers, the private sector and the public on the role they can take to help achieve these goals.



SDGs Localisation knowledge sharing meeting.



UNDP China Massive Open Online Course

2016 Supporting China's G20 Presidency

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



Former Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon (left 2) and Chinese President Xi Jinping (left 3) at the G20 Hangzhou Summit. ©Xinhua



Global leaders met at the G20 Hangzhou Summit to discuss pressing issues related to climate change and future economic cooperation. ©Xinhua

2016 Social Innovation for Inclusive Human Development

Since 1997 China has been producing National Human Development Reports (NHDR) that give a comprehensive overview of sustainable human development in China and what challenges the country faces. The reports highlight that Human development is about expanding the richness of human life, rather than simply the richness of the economy in which human beings live. It is an approach that is focused on people and their opportunities and choices.



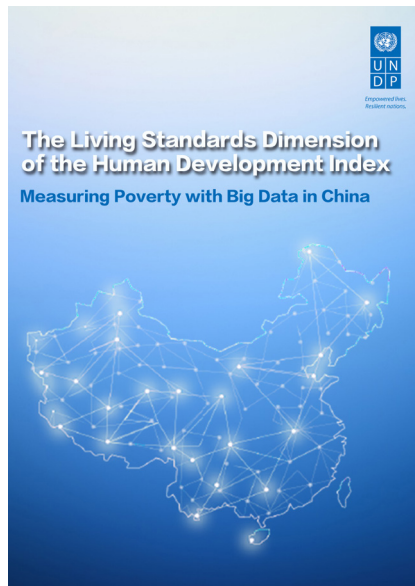
Four snapshots from an information video exploring social innovation for inclusive human development.

2016 Measuring Poverty with Big Data in China

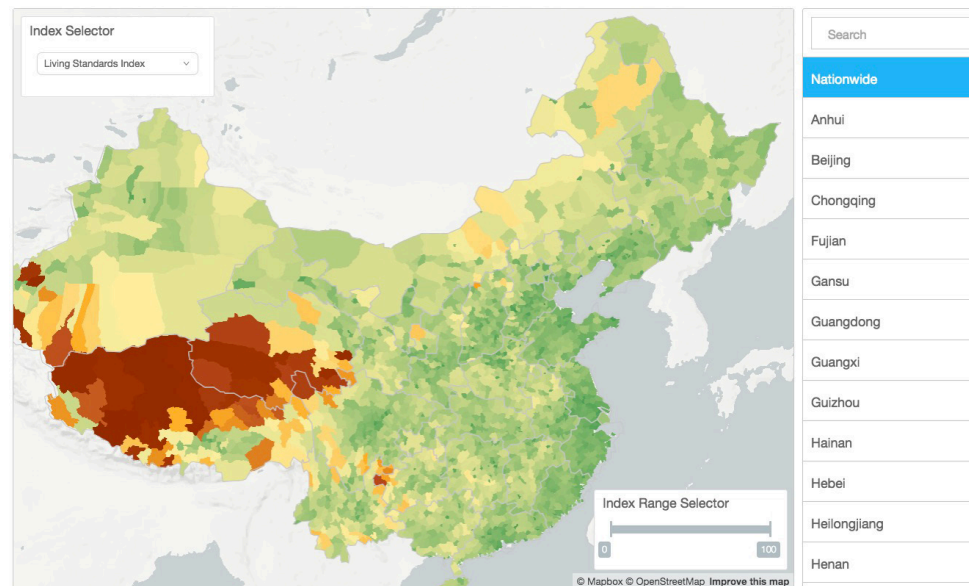
Dynamic information provided by big data to measure poverty across China has the potential to play an increasing role tracking and reviewing poverty levels. On October 17, the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty and China's National Poverty Day, UNDP China launched the Big Data Report.

The Living Standards Dimension of the Human Development Index: Measuring Poverty with Big Data in China shares perspectives on the potential of Big Data as a powerful complementary tool for measuring poverty in China.

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. The eight indicators include: access to piped water, access to sanitary toilets, access to indoor kitchens, access to living services, access to financial services, access to roads, mobile internet coverage, and night-time light density.



The Living Standards Dimension of the Human Development Report.



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

2008-Now The National Goodwill Ambassadors for The SDGs

Since 2008, UNDP China has welcomed Goodwill Ambassadors (GWAs) to support and advocate our projects. The first celebrity to be appointed to this role was Zhou Xun, a renowned Chinese actress who has focused her efforts on environmental sustainability.

Since then, we have also welcomed Zhao Wei, actress and film director, who will focus on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular highlighting poverty reduction and gender equality. In particular, she has highlighted issues of poverty and gender inequality.

In her first action as Goodwill Ambassador, Zhao Wei joined a field visit to Guizhou to observe UNDP's on-the-ground work in poverty reduction. While there, she joined ethnic minority celebrations, learnt embroidery with Miao embroiders, and visited households supported by the project.



GWA Zhou Xun planting trees at a UNDP China community event.



GWA Zhao Wei with UNDP China Country Director Agi Veres and beneficiaries of the Weaving into Happiness Project.



Opening event to launch the 2015 Social Good Summit in Beijing, hosted at UNDP China Beijing office.



2016 Social Good Summit, held at Peking University on 18th September.

2015-2016 Social Good Summit

To raise awareness around the highly anticipated Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), UNDP China hosted the 2015 Social Good Summit in Beijing to promote the UN's 17 SDGs alongside partners the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Chinese Social Media for Social Good Alliance.

The Social Good Summit in China is part of more than 100 Social Good Summits organized around the world to raise awareness of the SDGs.

2016 UNDP's First Animal Ambassadors for the SDGs

In September 2015, the Giant pandas joined in the international call for action on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), at the Chengdu Panda Base in Sichuan Province. Giant panda KeLin's three-month old twin girls helped raise awareness for Goal 7 -- Affordable and Clean Energy, a topic of wide domestic and international concern.

In 2016, UNDP designated two pandas to officially become UNDP's first-ever animal ambassadors for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). A global search for 'Panda Champions for the Global Goals' was also launched alongside the global naming campaign for the pandas.

In September, the cubs were officially named "QiQi" and "DianDian"; together these words mean: "the beginning of a journey". In addition, 17 winners of the 'Panda Champions for Global Goals' campaign were selected from 14 countries, including Colombia, Peru, Mexico, the U.S., the UK, Korea, Japan. The 17 champions visited QiQi and DianDian in Chengdu in 2017, and are now taking action to raise awareness of the SDGs in their own countries.



QiQi and DianDian, UNDP's animal ambassadors for the SDGs.



Zhang Zhihe, director of Chengdu Research Base, and UNDP Country Director Agi Veres at signing ceremony.



Michelle Yeoh, GWA, with QiQi and DianDian.



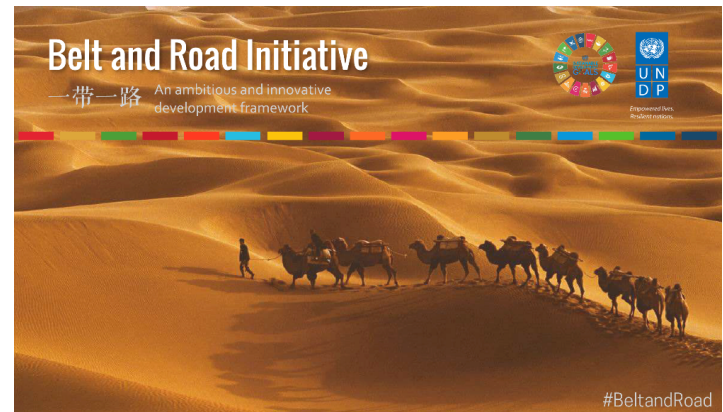
UNDP announces the panda cubs names at 2016 Social Good Summit.

2017 Belt and Road Forum on International Cooperation

China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is an economic framework developed to increase connectivity between China and over 100 countries and international organizations, based on the ancient Silk Road land and maritime routes. The BRI aims to link different regions through infrastructure construction, transport and economic corridors and by bridging China with the rest of the world both physically, financially, digitally and socially.

During the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation (BRF), UNDP signed an Action Plan with the Chinese government to follow up on the MOU. The Action Plan aims to put the advancement of the cooperation in practice through: information exchange, projects cooperation, policy coordination, building partnership and capacity building.

Two flagship reports were released during the forum:
The Third Global Governance Report features BRI alignment with the SDGs as an engagement premise for maximizing the desired BRI impact.
The 2017 Report on the Sustainable Development of Chinese Enterprises Overseas features sustainable business playing a critical role for the BRI implementation and SDG achievement.



Voices From Our Staff



Yunyan Ge
Operations Manager
34 years

"Since starting work at UNDP in 1982 my job has changed tremendously and I have been lucky to see the real tangible impacts UNDP projects have produced throughout the years. For example, establishing vegetable research center that introduced a number of new vegetables to China and our grasslands project in Inner Mongolia that reduced the sand degradation. I have seen China grow and develop and travelling to some of the most remote areas has given me the opportunity to understand the real impact of poverty and gain a deep impression of the importance of our work."



Zhiming Zhang
Travel Assistant
37 years

"I'm so proud to work at UNDP, serving people in China and around the world. I've received 5 UN Secretary-Generals, witnessed the growth of UNDP through 4 times of restructuring and supported countless programmes. I hope that UNDP could make use of our resources, taking targeted measures in tackling China's development challenges and also provide a more flexible working environment to all staff members, preparing everyone for more challenges."



Qingrui Deng
Utility Man
30 years

"I really miss my days at UNDP! I would help wherever I was needed, supporting all events, press conferences and banquets. I'm so honored that the small conference room was named after me as a recognition of my work in UNDP. I hope UNDP can keep contributing to China's development agenda."



Zoe Zhang
Programme Manager
South-South Team
7 years

"I particularly enjoy working together with UNDP's global network and Chinese counterparts to share China's development experiences with other developing countries. I have had the opportunity to explore new initiatives that test innovative ideas for sharing China's development experience, such as the 'design thinking methodology' that provided Bangladesh with urban solutions referring to Beijing one stop service centre model. I am also proud to witness and participate in the strengthened UNDP-China collaboration on South South Cooperation, some jointly initiated exchange platform such as Africa China Poverty Reduction and Development Conference with IPRCC, has contributed to promote the poverty reduction and development as one of the important agenda in China-Africa cooperation."



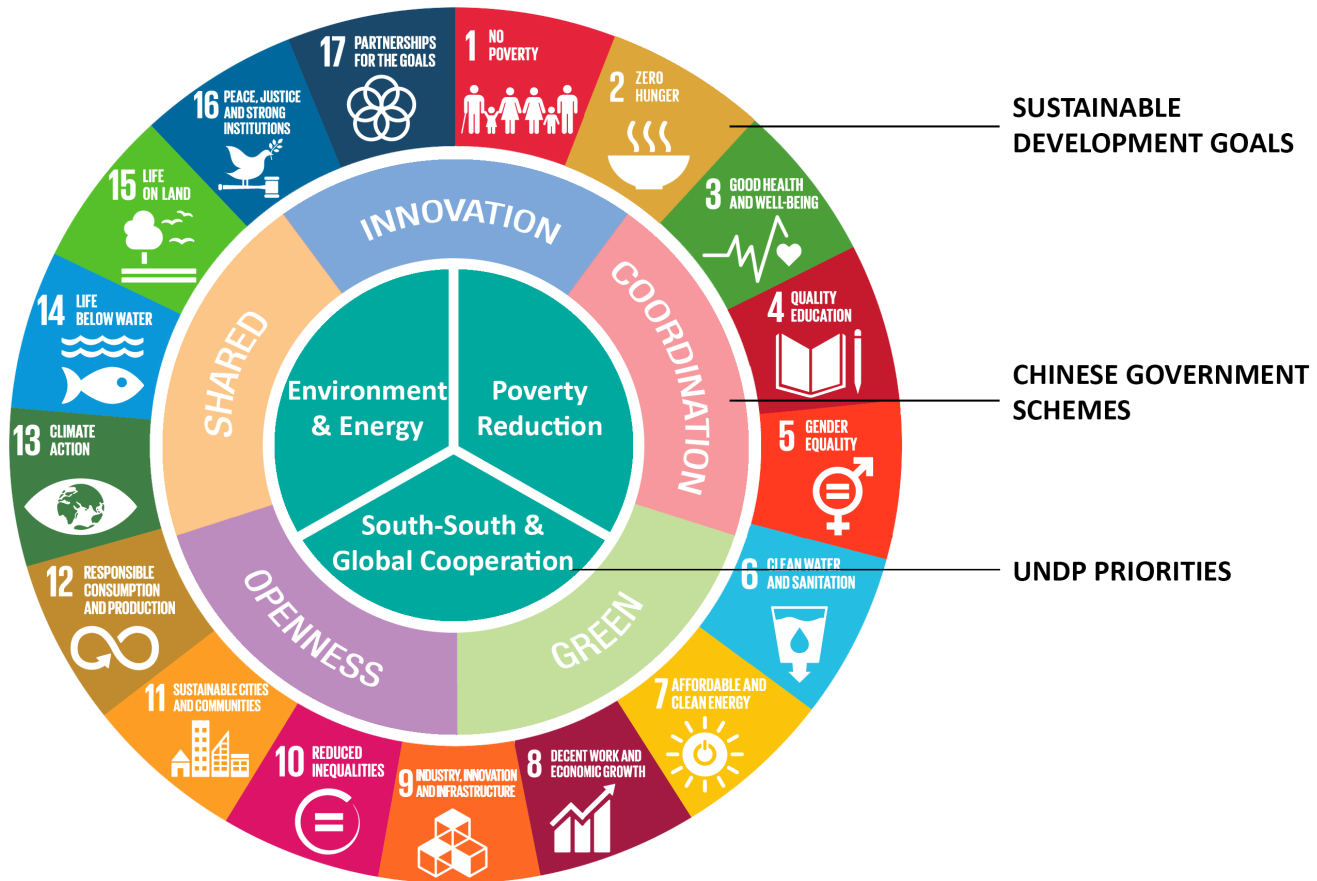
Yue Teng
Project Coordination Officer
Environment and Energy Team
7 Years

"It has been my great honor and pleasure to work with UNDP. The mandate of UNDP is to unite all the countries in the world to take action on issues such as climate change, sustainable development, poverty and gender. I am particularly proud to have contributed towards this fantastic work, specifically by partnering with the private sector to make our office a greener and more environmentally friendly space by facilitating the donation of green AC with 0 ODS to our office last year."



James Yang
National Programme Analyst on SOGIE
and HIV
2 years

"Every day I feel like my job is meaningful, not only to myself but particularly to the marginalised communities I am helping. I'm really proud to work on gender equality and the rights of LGBTI people, which is a complex topic in China. The launch of the LGBTI National Survey on the International Day against Homophobia and Transphobia (IDAHOT) last year was an especially rewarding time, when we brought together many community members alongside the media to really share the lives and stories of the community. The report was very important as it was the biggest survey ever done on LGBTI people in China, with over 100 million views online and one of UNDP's top 10 reports in 2016."





*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*