



China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED)

2021-2022 Work Plan

Note: Due to the impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the CCICED Annual Work Plan (from August 2021 to July 2022) has been approved in writing by Executive Members.

In 2021, the world economy is striving to recover from the shock of the pandemic. Making peace with nature is the only way to get back on the right track of sustainable development. 2021-2022 is also a critical year for the next phase of the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED). It also marks the 30th Anniversary of the Council. Learning from the successful experience in the past, the Council will start the preparation for its Phase VII (2022-2026).

Under the leadership of the Executive Members, with the participation and guidance of Council Members and Special Advisors, as well as the support of its partners, CCICED plans to set "Building an Inclusive, Green and Low-carbon Economy" as its annual theme, focusing on implementation of China's 14th Five-Year Plan and risk prevention in medium to long-term structural transition. The Council plans to conduct in-depth policy research and to organize related activities on major strategic issues, including carbon peaking and carbon neutrality, biodiversity conservation, oceans governance and greening the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), and major international agendas such as the 15th Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP15) and the 26th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP26). CCICED will also continue to implement the CCICED Guidelines on Gender Equality, comprehensively strengthen the capacity of the Secretariat, provide high-quality services to Council Members and Special Advisors, further maintain and expand partnerships, and continue to promote the establishment of "a shared community for nature and mankind". The main work tasks are as follows:

I. Policy Research

The core functions of the Council's work are carrying out policy research and providing policy recommendations to the Chinese government. Following the principles of cross-cutting, comprehensive, and forward-looking strategies--and taking into account the hotspot issues

domestically and abroad, as well as the transition period and funding arrangements, the Council plans to initially launch six Special Policy Studies (SPS). Moreover, the Chief Advisors will lead several scoping studies to guide the research direction and projects for Phase VII. Details are as follows:

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■ **Task Force 1: Global Environmental Governance and Ecological Civilization**

1. SPS on Carbon Dioxide Emissions Peak and Carbon Neutrality Policy Measures and Implementation Pathways:

The research will focus on carbon dioxide emissions peaking and carbon neutrality policy measures in the context of digital technology, analysis and evaluation of cost-benefit-risk of relevant mechanisms such as carbon trading, and their contributions to China's carbon neutrality commitments. It will also holistically examine their impacts on economic development, social equality and environmental quality. The research will aim to contribute to the strategy and implementation of China's carbon peaking action plan. The Council will continue to organize expert dialogues to promote in-depth exchanges among stakeholders, share international experiences, support China's role in global climate governance, and enhance the effectiveness of international cooperation on climate.

2. SPS on Value Assessment of Nature-based Solution (NbS): Based on discussions during CBD COP15 and UNFCCC COP 26, the research will improve synergies that NbS could bring out in areas including climate actions, biodiversity conservation, flood management and ecological safety. From the perspective of the ecological product value realization

mechanism and inclusive wealth evaluation, the research will aim to mainstream the biodiversity agenda and to promote overall green transition of socio-economic development.

3. SPS on Ecosystem-based Integrated Ocean Management under the Vision of Carbon Neutrality:

The Ocean is fundamental to human survival and sustainable development, and plays a vital role in climate regulation, mitigation and adaptation to climate change. The research aims to promote pathways of ecosystem-based integrated ocean management in times of climate change, including perspectives of control and prevention of marine land-based pollution, protection and rehabilitation of coastal ecosystems, climate change risks for ocean, ocean-negative carbon emission technology, and marine renewable energy, etc.

■ **Task Force 2: Green Urbanization and Environmental Improvement**

4. SPS on Low-carbon and Resilient Urban Development and Adaptation to Climate Change:

At the scope of river basins, the research will focus on the low-carbon and resilient development of important cities along rivers in times of climate change. The research will summarize and compare experiences of integrated river basin management in China and around the world, and propose mechanism

and policy recommendations in developing a low-carbon spatial pattern under the context of carbon dioxide emissions peaking and carbon neutrality.

■ **Task Force 3: Innovation, Sustainable Production and Consumption**

5. SPS on Sustainable Food Supply Chain:

Based on Global Green Supply Chain and other previous CCICED research outcomes, the research focuses on the connection between agricultural production, food consumption, and climate change. The research will also focus on green transition of agriculture, food safety, actions against food waste, and others. It will explore how digital technology could help build a poverty-reducing, green, safe, and sustainable food value chain and support green and high-quality development.

II. Key Events

1. CCICED 2022 Annual General Meeting:

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is tentatively scheduled for the second quarter of 2022, Phase VII will be launched at the same time. Open forums will be organized around the annual theme and emerging issues on environment and development, and policy research outputs will be reviewed. The annual Policy Recommendation will also be formulated at the AGM. In addition, the CCICED Phase VI Capstone Report, which outlines the key outcomes and impacts of CCICED's work during Phase VI will be distributed during the AGM.

■ **Task Force 4: Green Energy, Investment, and Trade**

6. SPS on the Key Pathways on a Green and Low-Carbon BRI:

To promote green development in BRI participating countries and contribute to the global sustainable development process, the research will examine the policies and incentive mechanisms of the following three critical pathways: 1) promote clean energy technology innovation, development and transfer; 2) guide financial resources to support green and low-carbon projects in BRI participating countries; 3) strengthen capacity to develop BRI into an important engine for the global low-carbon transition and post-pandemic green recovery.

2. CCICED Roundtable Meeting: In conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the United Nations Stockholm Conference on Human Environment, CCICED will organize a roundtable meeting to share the research outputs and exchange experiences and best practices on green development.

3. Commemorative Events on CCICED's 30th Anniversary: Commemorative events are being planned concurrently with the CCICED AGM. A report on CCICED's 30-years' work on environment and development will be released, and promotional films and souvenirs for the 30th anniversary will be produced. The Council will

also summarize past experiences and review the impacts of CCICED's progress and looks forward to its development in the future.

4. Side Events and Activities: Based on the research outputs from the SPSs, CCICED will organize side events and activities in

conjunction with CBD COP15, UNFCCC COP26, World Circular Economy Forum, the World Economic Forum Annual Meetings in Davos and others, to share CCICED research outputs and advance global environmental governance.

III. Operations and Management

1. Complete Preparatory Work for Phase VII: The Council will gather inputs from stakeholders, determine the research framework for CCICED Phase VII, and revise relevant institutional documents as needed. The Council will continue to work with partners to negotiate and finalize cooperation agreements for Phase VII. The Council will also complete the selection and invitation of Council Members and Special Advisors for Phase VII.

2. Provide High-Quality Service to Council Members and Special Advisors: CCICED will inform Council Members and Special Advisors of the Council's work developments through regular publications, including CCICED Newsletter and CCICED Annual Report. CCICED will also assist Council Members and Special Advisors in engaging in policy research work, participating in major conferences and events, and promptly consolidate, refine, and publish Council Members' inputs for high-level decision making.

3. Enhance and Consolidate Partnerships: Regular joint working meetings between Chief Advisors and the Secretariat will be organized, as well as meetings with partners and donors to inform them of the progress of CCICED's work and gather inputs from stakeholders. CCICED aims to expand and develop partnerships by strengthening communication and cooperation, including carrying out joint events to leverage complementary advantages and to share research outcomes.

4. Strengthen Capacity Building for the Secretariat, Increase Support for the Chief Advisors: CCICED plans to comprehensively strengthen the capacity of the Secretariat by coordinating and collaborating with Secretariat International Support Office (SISO) through regular working meetings. The Council will also improve the capacity of the Secretariat on policy research and management through training and staff exchanges to provide well rounded support for the Chief Advisors' work.

IV. Communications

1. Promptly Disseminate Research Outputs to Strengthen Policy Impacts: CCICED plans to strengthen communication, cooperation, and discussion with all partners through major events, including the CCICED AGM and roundtable meetings. CCICED will continue publishing CCICED Annual Policy Reports (in English and Chinese), a series of publication compiling outputs of selected SPSs over the past years. CCICED will timely channel its research outputs to support high-level decision-making and strive to enhance their impacts.

2. Innovate Communication Methods to Enhance Recognition: CCICED aims to deepen cooperation with institutions such as China Daily and International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) to manage platforms such as the CCICED's website, WeChat official account, Facebook, Twitter, and other media platforms to publish CCICED's research outputs and work progress in multiple formats and perspectives in a timely manner, as well as to expand the coverage and publicity.





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