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## **CCICED 2018 Work Plan**

The year 2018 will mark the beginning of full implementation of Phase VI of the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED). Inspired by the vision of building towards a more beautiful China and a green and prosperous world, CCICED Phase VI is committed to promoting ecological civilization and sustainable development by serving as a platform of exchange on environment and development policy issues between China and the international community. The Council promotes collaborative efforts to achieve ecological civilization, and advocates a more innovative and robust global environmental governance system.

This new phase of the Council coincides with a historic moment when « Socialism with Chinese characteristics » enters a new era. As one integral part of China's five development concepts, green development will set the tone for China's socioeconomic development in this new era, and innovation will provide strong momentum for green development. It is in this context that the theme of the Council's 2018 work is to be "Innovation for a Green New Era". During the year, a series of events, research activities and capacity building focusing on green development will be launched.

### **I. Major Events**

#### **A. CCICED Annual General Meeting**

It is proposed to hold the 2018 CCICED AGM in Beijing in the Fall. A series of dialogues centering around the theme will be scheduled during the AGM to discuss policy research findings and emergent issues, and to formulate policy recommendations to the Chinese Government.

#### **B. Business Roundtable on Innovation and Green Development**

A business roundtable on "Green Public Private Partnerships" is planned for the first half of 2018 and will bring together business innovators, leaders and visionaries, to contribute ideas and insights to the development of greener institutions, and to share best practices in green development.

#### **C. Dialogue on Mainstreaming the Gender Dimension into Green Development**

This event could be combined with The Leadership Summit for Sustainable Business at GLOBE FORUM VANCOUVER 2018 (March 14-16). As a side event of GLOBE, the CCICED will organize a dialogue on how best to mainstream gender equality dimensions into green development. Bringing together international and Chinese expertise in this area, the Dialogue will allow participants to explore the root causes of women's exclusion from equal participation. In addition, the relevance of the gender dimension to environment and development policy making will be demonstrated and best practices will be shared.

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## **D. A Series of Special Seminars**

Based on the planned 2018 research activities, CCICED will cooperate with its domestic and international partners to host 5-6 special seminars on green urbanization, climate change, biodiversity conservation, green BRI, ocean protection and rural environmental improvement.

## **II. Policy Research and Demonstration Projects**

CCICED will carry out systematic policy research in four broad thematic areas chosen for Phase VI, now referred to as Task Forces, and focusing on: Global Governance and Ecological Civilization; Green Urbanization and Environmental Improvement; Innovation, Sustainable Production and Consumption; and Green Energy, Investment and Trade. Under each TF, a number of Special Policy Studies (SPS) will be conducted. In addition, the CCICED may initiate short-term and quick response studies on emergent issues.

### **(1) Policy Research Projects**

#### **A. Task Force on Global Governance and Ecological Civilization**

##### *1. SPS on China's Contributions to Global Climate Governance (2018)*

This SPS will assess China's role in the global governance system for climate change, with the aim of developing recommendations on how China can continue to participate, contribute and lead international efforts to address this issue, taking into account synergies with other environmental and social issues.

##### *2. SPS on Post 2020: Global Biodiversity Conservation (2018)*

This SPS will review the progress of biodiversity conservation in China and the world; identify and assess effective management systems and policy measures for biodiversity conservation; and identify approaches to foster long-term improvements to ecological services. The aim is to provide recommendations for key approaches that can be explored in the period leading up to, during and after the CBD COP15 Conference, which China is hosting in 2020.

##### *3. SPS on Global Ocean Governance and Ecological Civilization (2017-2019)*

This SPS will be based on an ocean governance model which is ecosystem-focused and integrated. Specific themes to be explored are: Marine Biological Resources and Biodiversity Conservation; Ocean Pollution Control; Green Shipping; and Renewable and Mineral Resources Use.

#### **B. TF on Green Urbanization and Environmental Improvement**

##### *4. SPS on Green Urbanization Strategy and Pathways Towards Regional Integrated Development (2018-2019)*

Regional integrated development is an important strategy proposed by the 19<sup>th</sup> CPC National Congress, and a new type of urbanization is required for such development.

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This SPS will cover issues such as: the role of natural resource assets in green urbanization; strategy and pathways towards green urbanization in a digital era; green transition for traditional industrial parks; renewables and green infrastructure.

*5. SPS on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Environmental Improvement (2018)*

The 19<sup>th</sup> CPC Congress report proposed to implement a rural rejuvenation strategy as an approach to address rural poverty and environmental improvement. This new strategy will prioritize rural development, establish and improve institutions and policies for urban-rural integrated development, and facilitate agricultural and rural modernization. This SPS will explore topics such as: rural green rejuvenation; poverty reduction; social justice; ecological agriculture and environmental protection.

*6. SPS on Goals and Pathways for Environmental Improvement in 2035 (2018)*

As proposed by 19<sup>th</sup> CPC Congress, the fundamental improvement in ecological environment by 2035 will be one of the six indicators of China's basic modernization. This SPS will investigate what could constitute realistic and meaningful quantitative environmental targets for China in 2035 and explore pathways toward this goal, in the context of the UN's sustainable development goals for 2030.

**C. TF on Innovation, Sustainable Production and Consumption**

*7. SPS on Green Transition and Sustainable Social Governance (2018)*

This SPS will study social governance institutions in order to determine how to promote green lifestyles as a leverage for green production and green transition. Under this SPS, issues studied could comprise green education, green supply chains and the 4<sup>th</sup> industrial revolution, public participation and social governance.

**D. TF on Green Energy, Investment and Trade**

*8. SPS on Green Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and 2030 SDGs (2018-2020)*

This SPS will assess and quantify progress to date, particularly that of green development in critical areas along the newly defined 'Belt and Road'. The SPS would share the best practices of enterprises in the area of green development and assess the role played by the BRI in realizing the SDGs. A 'BRI Green Development Report' would be issued periodically during the duration of the SPS.

**(2) Research Protocols**

**A. TF Co-chairs, SPS Team Leaders and Research Team**

Two co-chairs – Chinese and international – for each TF will be appointed by the Secretariat through discussions with the Chief Advisors. The co-chairs are expected to guide project implementation, identify priority issues and specific SPS topics, so as to ensure policy research is properly focused, pragmatic and forward-looking. Each SPS will be guided by two Team Leaders, one from China and the other from abroad. The team leaders, whether Chinese or international, will be nominated by the co-chairs through discussions with the Chief Advisors and will be approved by the CCICED

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Secretary General. The team leaders will work under the guidance of the co-chairs and will nominate and mobilize the research team to initiate the special policy studies.

## **B. Research Findings and Timelines**

A minimum of three research reports will be produced by each SPS annually and released at different stages. The final report will be presented at the AGM during an open forum. The CCICED is planning to launch 4-5 SPSs during the first half of 2018 and 3-4 in the second half of the year. Each SPS will have between one to three years to complete its work.

### **(3) Pilot and Demonstration Projects**

In response to the needs of the central and local governments, research institutes, and enterprises, the CCICED will join partners to implement pilot and demonstration projects based on its research findings, in order to garner practical experience and develop models that can be replicated and disseminated.

## **III. Capacity Building Program on Sustainable Development**

Tapping into a network of partnerships and stakeholders, CCICED will carry out capacity building programs on sustainable development in line with China's needs, in order to strengthen the decision-making capabilities of central and local governments, business leaders and civil society, with a particular emphasis on women and youth. The Council also intends to carry out dialogues and communication with developing countries to share its green transition practice and experience, and to enhance overall capacity to implement the SDG 2030 agenda.

## **IV. Communication and Outreach Activities**

### **A. Enhanced Communication of Major Events**

During the AGM, business roundtables and other activities, the CCICED plans to fully benefit from the expertise and experience of Council Members and special advisors, to conduct dialogues among lead decision makers, to conduct interviews with important guests – all in order to disseminate more broadly the Council's research findings.

### **B. Regular Publication of Policy Research Reports**

Research findings will be published on a regular basis throughout the year and presented to China's top decision makers to expand the Council's policy influence.

### **C. Flagship Publications**

CCICED will continue to publish its annual Policy Research Reports, including policy research findings, the yearly Issues Paper and the comprehensive CCICED Policy Research Impact Report, for the reference of members, special advisors, partners and the public.

### **D. Social Media**

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CCICED will actively utilize its website and new media platforms such as WeChat to broadcast its research findings and work progress, in order to reach broader audiences and raise awareness on green development.

#### **V. Consolidated and Expanded Partnerships**

CCICED intends to strengthen communication and cooperation with foreign governments, international organizations, research institutes, think tanks, universities and civil society, in order to consolidate and expand partnerships and elevate its profile as a think tank platform.