



SPS Research Update

Dear CCICED colleagues,

From early this week, the Chief Advisors have been and will continue to be in touch with each of the 10 SPS Teams via conference calls to follow up on their respective research progress and identify broad focus areas for policy recommendations. After these individual calls, the Secretariat will assist the Chief Advisors in organizing a joint conference call with all the SPS Teams to identify synergies among the teams.

These meetings are organized in lieu of the postponed in-person quarterly CHAD meetings. Despite the challenges posed by the recent outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, we do not foresee any changes to the timeline of submission and publication of SPS Reports:

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|
| • February 20 | Submission of 1st Draft |
| • End of March | Submission of 2nd Draft |
| • April 20 | Submission of 3rd (final) Draft |
| • May 5 | Publication of Final Report |

Through this difficult time, we want to thank our CCICED colleagues for your continuous cooperation and support. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Kind regards,
Secretariat International Support Office

Event Recap

SPS/BRI Working Meeting, February 7th

The Working Meeting of SPS on Green BRI and 2030 SDGs for Team Leaders and CCICED International Chief Advisor was held on Feb 7th, 2020. The meeting discussed the up-to-date progress of the SPS, major content of the SPS Report (Zero Draft), framework of policy recommendations, field trip schedule, and next-step timetable.

See [HERE](#) for meeting minutes.

Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY

7th - 16th SPS Working Meetings

18th Joint SPS Meeting, 1:30-4:00 PM (GMT)

17th - March 6th International Seabed Authority, 26th Assembly, Kingston, Jamaica

24th - 29th Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Preparatory Meeting, Rome, Italy

MARCH

10th - 12th Global Symposium on Soil Biodiversity, Rome, Italy

30th - April 3rd National Adaptation Planning Expo 2020, Gaborone, Botswana

APRIL

13th - 19th 2020 Spring Meetings of the World Bank and IMF, Washington DC, USA

MAY

20th - 22nd CCICED Annual General Meeting, Beijing, China

News Scan

Global Governance and Ecological Civilization



China's anti-smog policies this winter

Feb 5th, Chinadialogue - China first set of smog-reduction targets, for 2013-17, focussed on its three biggest city clusters: Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei, the Pearl river delta and the Yangtze delta. Those targets, which included a 33% reduction in Beijing of average fine particle pollution (PM2.5), were easily achieved. The tough measures taken, and their impact on businesses have been coming under the microscope of public opinion, all while the government tries to "fine tune" its policies. [FULL ARTICLE](#)



China to amend law on wildlife protection

Feb 11th, Xinhua News - China's top legislature will amend the law on the protection of wildlife this year in an effort to fight the novel coronavirus outbreak. Efforts will also be made to accelerate the amendment of laws on animal epidemic prevention and other areas, Wang Ruihe, an official with the Legislative Affairs Commission of the National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee, said at a press conference in Beijing. [FULL ARTICLE](#)



China has positioned itself as a leader in the fight against climate change, but is it really prepared for the role?

Feb 9th, South China Morning Post - China likes to cast itself as a world leader in tackling climate change – witness the recent initiative to ban single-use plastics – particularly in the wake of US President Donald Trump's withdrawal from the 2016 Paris climate agreement. As the deadlock at the recent COP25 conference shows, Beijing has other plans. [FULL ARTICLE](#)

Green Urbanization and Environment Improvement



Water quality of Yangtze improves in 2019

Jan 18th, CGTN - Yangtze River, China's longest waterway, saw continuous improvement in its water quality in 2019 as the country continues a campaign for the river's protection, a senior environmental official said. In 2019, the quality of the water in 91.7 percent of the Yangtze's sections stood above Grade III, the third-highest in the country's five-tier water quality system. This is an increase of 4.2 percentage points year-on-year, said Zhang Bo, chief engineer and head of the water department at the Ministry of Ecology and Environment. [FULL ARTICLE](#)

Innovation, Sustainable Production and Consumption



China tech giants wake up to renewable energy, but fossil fuels still dominate as electricity source

Jan 11th, South China Morning Post - China's biggest technology companies, such as e-commerce giant Alibaba and search-engine provider Baidu, are using more renewable energy to power their businesses. But they have a long way to go if they wish to be corporate leaders in the shift away from the fossil fuels blamed for global warming. "There's explosive growth and demand for data, servers and data centres in China, so the power consumption in this industry is also skyrocketing," Greenpeace East Asia climate and energy campaigner Ye Ruiqi said. [FULL ARTICLE](#)

Green Energy, Investment and Trade



China Development Bank could be a climate bank

Feb 6th, Chinadialogue - China Development Bank (CDB) has an opportunity to become the world's most important climate bank, driving the transition to the low-carbon economy. CDB supports Chinese investments globally, often in heavily emitting sectors. Some 70% of global CO2 emissions come from the buildings, transport and energy sectors, which are all strongly linked to infrastructure investment. [FULL ARTICLE](#)



In Asia, finance may be the most effective weapon

Feb 7th, Eco-business - China's 13th five-year plan covering 2016-2020 mandated influencing capital flows for sustainable development. With a green financial system that now promotes green credit, green bonds and green funds, credits supporting the green sectors from 21 major Chinese banks reached 10.6 trillion RMB (\$1.54 trillion) in the first half of 2019. [FULL ARTICLE](#)