

News Scan

Global Governance and Ecological Civilization



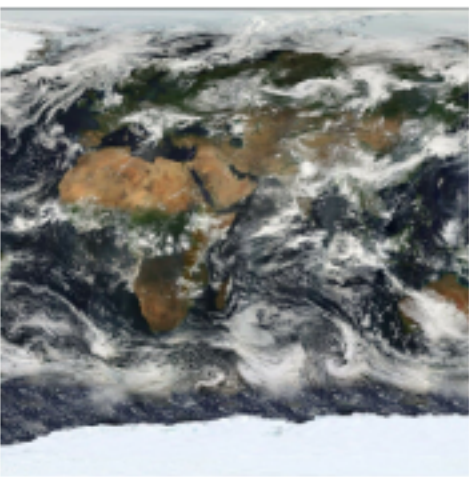
China takes center stage in global biodiversity push

Feb 14th, Nature - When nearly 200 countries gather next week at the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Preparatory Meeting in Rome to thrash out a major plan to stem the precipitous decline, China is expected to take a prominent role. The high-stakes negotiations will set the stage for a major biodiversity summit in October, which the country will also host — marking the first time China will lead global talks on the environment. [FULL ARTICLE](#)



China fulfills emission promises with actions, not slogans, says Chinese Foreign Minister

Feb 14th, Xinhua News - China played an important role in facilitating the final signing of the Paris Agreement, and will “100 percent” fulfill its promises on climate action, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi said. For a country with a population of 1.4 billion, fulfilling its promises on reducing emissions is the biggest contribution to the world and the human development. [FULL ARTICLE](#)



Satellite image data reveals rapid decline of China's intertidal wetlands

Feb 14th, Science X - Using archives of satellite imaging data, a study in Frontiers in Earth Science has conducted the most in-depth study of China’s intertidal wetlands to date and found a 37.62% decrease in area between 1970 and 2015. Intertidal wetlands significantly contribute to China’s environmental and ecological diversity, but are facing unprecedented pressures from anthropogenic development, as well as the threat of future sea level rise. [FULL ARTICLE](#)

Green Urbanization and Environment Improvement



In the fight against climate change, cities need not be hotbeds of environmental degradation

Feb 5th, South China Morning News - In an opinion piece by CCICED Council Member, Naoko Ishii, she proposed that instead of being seen as pressure points for the environment, cities could be planned as innovation hubs. National governments must lead the move towards inclusive and sustainable cities, through initiatives such as carbon pricing and tax policies. [FULL ARTICLE](#)

Innovation, Sustainable Production and Consumption



A boycott is not the answer to palm oil's environmental problems

Jan 17th, Chinadialogue - The use of unsustainable or “conventional” palm oil – that negatively impacts both natural environments and local communities – is commonplace in China. Campaigns to boycott palm oil remove incentives for companies to improve their production practices, as demand for palm oil by consumers in western markets decreases, and companies continue to sell conventional palm oil to less scrupulous markets. A switch to sustainably produced palm oil is a solution favoured by several civil society organisations. [FULL ARTICLE](#)

Green Energy, Investment and Trade



China Development Bank could be a climate bank

Feb 16th, Modern Diplomacy - 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. The rules applied by development finance institutions like CBD when making funding decisions on infrastructure projects can therefore set the framework for cutting carbon emissions. [FULL ARTICLE](#)



How big data can make supply chains better for consumers and the planet

Feb 16th, World Economic Forum - Developing economies like China are encouraging more domestic consumption, but this leads to greater strain on resources, and potentially greater waste. Is there a way to find a better balance? Consumerism isn't going away – and, we don't believe it needs to – but we do advocate for smarter consumption. [FULL ARTICLE](#)



The potential climate consequences of China's Belt and Roads Initiative

Feb 17th, Yale Climate Connections - While China is on track to meet its climate goals under the Paris agreement ahead of schedule, analyses undertaken by a number of government-backed interests, NGOs, and academic organizations worldwide point to direct and indirect environmental impacts from BRI. The projects involve everything from land use to wildlife and habitat disruption to environmental impacts from BRI. The projects involve everything from land use to wildlife and habitat disruption to water concerns to mineral extraction to industrial effects to pollution. [FULL ARTICLE](#)