

# CCICED SPS 3-1

## Green Transformation and Sustainable Social Governance



### Chinese Team Leaders:

Mr. REN Yong, Director-General, Environmental Development of Ministry of Ecology and Environment

Mr. FAN Bi, Special Advisor of CCICED; Invited Research Fellow, China Center for International Economic Exchanges

### Int'l Team Leaders:

Ms. Åsa Romson, Member of CCICED; Expert in environmental law & policy, IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute; Former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Climate and the Environment, the Kingdom of Sweden

Mr. Jianyu Zhang, Special Advisor of CCICED; Vice President, Environmental Defense Fund; Program Director, Environmental Defense Fund China Project

## Background

China is transitioning to high quality economic development, featuring consumption as the key driver of growth. However, ever-mounting pressure is being exerted on resources and the environment, through high and at times wasteful consumption of resources and energy, discharge of sewage and waste, vehicle emissions, etc. Transformative change towards sustainable production has shown progress while consumption indicators are deteriorating. China's social governance system requires greater attention to green lifestyle choices as a foundation for sustainable consumption. This effort can build upon existing Chinese and international efforts such as for environmental labeling and certification, green supply chains, environmental education, some sharing economy choices, environmental taxation, and various incentive systems. With the policy shift towards an economy built on domestic consumption, it is an urgent matter to ensure environmental sustainability is fully incorporated during the coming decade. If not, Chinese *per capita* consumption patterns may shift towards unacceptably high levels experienced in many developed countries. As WWF and others have noted, combined ecological footprints require more resources than our planet can currently supply sustainably. Thus several planetary boundaries already are being violated, and others threatened.

## Tasks

1. The role of green consumption and lifestyles, and green transformation;
2. The status quo and trend of consumption in China and its influence on resource and environment;
3. The policy and practice of green consumption and lifestyles in China;
4. The international experience on green consumption.