

China's Green Development in the New Era (I)

新时代的中国绿色发展(上)

The State Council Information Office of the People's Republic of China
中华人民共和国国务院新闻办公室

January 2023
2023年1月

Preface

Green is the color of nature and the symbol of life. A sound eco-environment is the basic foundation for a better life, and the common aspiration of the people. Green development is development that follows the laws of nature to promote harmonious coexistence between humanity and nature, development that obtains the maximum social and economic benefits at minimum cost in resources and environmental impact, and sustainable and high-quality development that protects the eco-environment. It has become the goal of all countries.

Respecting and protecting nature has made an important contribution to the survival and prosperity of the Chinese nation over thousands of years. The concept of "harmony between humanity and nature" is a distinct characteristic of Chinese civilization. To vigorously promote the building of a socialist eco-civilization, China has established a fundamental national policy of conserving resources and protecting the environment, and a national strategy of sustainable development since the launch of reform and opening up.

Since the 18th CPC National Congress in 2012, under the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, China has firmly upheld the belief that lucid waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets. It has prioritized eco-environmental conservation and green development, promoted the comprehensive green transformation of economic and social development, and achieved modernization based on harmony between humanity and nature. Wonders have been accomplished in eco-environmental protection and green development, and great strides have been made in building a beautiful China. Green is the defining feature of China in the new era and green development features the Chinese path to modernization. With more blue skies, green mountains, and lucid waters, the Chinese people could enjoy more accessible and sustainable green benefits. China's green development has helped to expand the greening areas of its own land and the earth, benefitting both China and the world at large.

As the world's largest developing country, China is committed to the idea of a global community of shared future. It has offered unwavering support to multilateralism, proposed the Global Development Initiative and the Global Security Initiative, expanded practical cooperation, and actively participated in global environment

前言

绿色是生命的象征、大自然的底色，良好生态环境是美好生活的基础、人民共同的期盼。绿色发展是顺应自然、促进人与自然和谐共生的发展，是用最少资源环境代价取得最大经济社会效益的发展，是高质量、可持续的发展，已经成为各国共识。

几千年来，中华民族尊重自然、保护自然，生生不息、繁衍发展，倡导“天人合一”是中华文明的鲜明特色。改革开放以来，中国把节约资源和保护环境确立为基本国策，把可持续发展确立为国家战略，大力推进社会主义生态文明建设。

中共十八大以来，在习近平新时代中国特色社会主义思想指引下，中国坚持绿水青山就是金山银山的理念，坚定不移走生态优先、绿色发展之路，促进经济社会发展全面绿色转型，建设人与自然和谐共生的现代化，创造了举世瞩目的生态奇迹和绿色发展奇迹，美丽中国建设迈出重大步伐。绿色成为新时代中国的鲜明底色，绿色发展成为中国式现代化的显著特征，广袤中华大地天更蓝、山更绿、水更清，人民享有更多、更普惠、更可持续的绿色福祉。中国的绿色发展，为地球增添了更多“中国绿”，扩大了全球绿色版图，既造福了中国，也造福了世界。

作为世界上最大的发展中国家，中国秉持人类命运共同体理念，坚定践行多边主义，提出全球发展倡议、全球安全倡议，深化务实合作，积极

and climate governance. It has contributed Chinese wisdom and strength to implementing the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, creating a community of life for humanity and nature, and building a clean, beautiful and prosperous world of sustainable development.

The Chinese government is publishing this white paper to present a full picture of China's ideas, actions, and achievements in green development in the new era, and to share with the world its experience in this regard.

I. Staying Firmly Committed to Green Development

To meet the people's desire for a better life, China has treated lucid waters and lush mountains as invaluable assets and worked to maintain harmony between humanity and nature in its development. China favors high-quality economic growth, high-level environmental protection, and a path of sound development based on higher economic output and living standards, and healthy ecosystems.

1. Applying a people-centered development philosophy

The people-centered philosophy is a governing principle of the Communist Party of China (CPC), and a sound eco-environment is the fairest public product and the most inclusive public benefit. As China's modernization advances and living standards improve, the popular demand for a beautiful environment is growing. In the people's happiness index, the weight of environment has increased. To meet the growing demand for a beautiful environment, China has strengthened eco-environmental conservation and protection and vigorously promoted eco-friendly ways of work and life. It has focused on solving the major environmental problems that seriously endanger people's health, improved the quality of the environment and ecosystems, and provided more quality eco-environmental goods, so as to help people feel happier, more satisfied, and more secure in a beautiful environment.

2. Focusing on sustainable development in China

Society will prosper when the environment improves, and lose vigor as the environment degrades. Nature provides the basic conditions for human survival and development. Respecting, accommodating, and protecting nature is essential for sustainable development. Bearing in mind that its environmental capacity is limited and its ecosystem is fragile, China has not only pursued development for the present generation, but also mapped out plans for generations to come. It regards eco-environmental conservation as fundamental to sustainable development in China. It values both the environment and economic development, works to translate eco-environmental strengths into development strengths, and always looks to realize the economic and social value that lucid waters and lush mountains have, which will bring about financial returns, eco-environmental benefits, social benefits, and harmony between humanity and nature.

3. Applying systems thinking and a coordinated approach

Green development is an all-round revolutionary change in our values, and in how we work, live, and think. China has applied systems thinking to the whole process of economic and social development and eco-environmental conservation and protection. It has

参与全球环境与气候治理，为落实联合国2030年可持续发展议程，推动全球可持续发展，共同构建人与自然生命共同体，共建繁荣清洁美丽的世界贡献了中国智慧、中国力量。

为全面介绍新时代中国绿色发展理念、实践与成效，分享中国绿色发展经验，特发布本白皮书。

一、坚定不移走绿色发展之路

中国顺应人民对美好生活的新期待，树立和践行绿水青山就是金山银山的理念，站在人与自然和谐共生的高度谋划发展，协同推进经济社会高质量发展和生态环境高水平保护，走出了一条生产发展、生活富裕、生态良好的文明发展道路。

（一）坚持以人民为中心的发展思想

以人民为中心是中国共产党的执政理念，良好生态环境是最公平的公共产品、最普惠的民生福祉。随着中国现代化建设的不断推进和人民生活水平的不断提高，人们对优美生态环境的需要更加迫切，生态环境在人民生活幸福指数中的地位不断凸显。中国顺应人民日益增长的优美生态环境需要，坚持生态惠民、生态利民、生态为民，大力推行绿色生产生活方式，重点解决损害群众健康的突出环境问题，持续改善生态环境质量，提供更多优质生态产品，让人民在优美生态环境中有更多的获得感、幸福感、安全感。

（二）着眼中华民族永续发展

生态兴则文明兴，生态衰则文明衰。大自然是人类赖以生存发展的基本条件，只有尊重自然、顺应自然、保护自然，才能实现可持续发展。中国立足环境容量有限、生态系统脆弱的现实国情，既为当代发展谋、也为子孙万代计，把生态文明建设作为关系中华民族永续发展的根本大计，既要金山银山也要绿水青山，推动绿水青山转化为金山银山，让自然财富、生态财富源源不断带来经济财富、社会财富，实现经济效益、生态效益、社会效益同步提升，建设人与自然和谐共生的现代化。

taken a sound approach to the relationships between development and protection, between overall and local interests, and between the present and the future. It has taken a scientific, moderate, and orderly approach to the use of territorial space, and promoted a sound economic structure that facilitates green, low-carbon, and circular development. It has fostered an institutional system that combines both constraints and incentives to coordinate industrial restructuring, pollution control, eco-environmental conservation, and climate response. China has endeavored to cut carbon emissions, reduce pollution, expand green development, and pursue economic growth. It has prioritized eco-environmental protection, conserves resources and uses them efficiently for green and low-carbon development. It has developed spatial configurations, industrial structures, and ways of work and life that help conserve resources and protect the environment, and promoted greener economic and social development in all respects.

4. Working together for global sustainable development

Protecting the environment and countering climate change are the common responsibilities of all countries. Only when all countries unite and work together to promote green and sustainable development can we maintain the overall balance in the earth's ecology and protect humanity's one and only home. China has shouldered its responsibilities, actively participated in global environmental governance, and pledged to reach carbon emissions peak by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2060. It will advance the green transition with these goals as the lead, play a more active part in bilateral and multilateral international cooperation on green development, promote a fair and equitable system of global environmental governance, and contribute its wisdom and strength to global sustainable development.

II. A Basic Green Territorial Configuration Is in Place

China is making efforts to optimize its governing system of territorial space. The country has strengthened the overall planning and coordinated management and control of territorial space for working and living and for the environment. It has intensified efforts to protect and restore ecosystems, effectively expanded the capacity of the eco-environment, and promoted the rapid accumulation of natural wealth and eco-environmental wealth, leading to historic, transformative, and comprehensive changes in eco-environmental protection and providing strong support for the sustainable and healthy development of the economy and society.

1. Optimizing the development and protection of territorial space

A country's territorial space is the carrier for green development. China has implemented a functional zoning strategy and established a unified territorial space planning system that is science-based, efficient and built upon clearly defined powers and responsibilities. Taking into consideration factors such as population distribution, regional economic structures, land use, and eco-environmental protection, it has planned for the development and protection of territorial space with a holistic approach, so as to achieve higher-quality and more sustainable development of its territorial space.

China has integrated different plans into a single master plan for

(三) 坚持系统观念统筹推进

绿色发展是对生产方式、生活方式、思维方式和价值观念的全方位、革命性变革。中国把系统观念贯穿到经济社会发展和生态环境保护全过程，正确处理发展和保护、全局和局部、当前和长远等一系列关系，构建科学适度有序的国土空间布局体系、绿色低碳循环发展的经济体系、约束和激励并举的制度体系，统筹产业结构调整、污染治理、生态保护、应对气候变化，协同推进降碳、减污、扩绿、增长，推进生态优先、节约集约、绿色低碳发展，形成节约资源和保护环境的空间格局、产业结构、生产方式、生活方式，促进经济社会发展全面绿色转型。

(四) 共谋全球可持续发展

保护生态环境、应对气候变化，是全人类的共同责任。只有世界各国团结合作、共同努力，携手推进绿色可持续发展，才能维持地球生态整体平衡，守护好全人类赖以生存的唯一家园。中国站在对人类文明负责的高度，积极参与全球环境治理，向世界承诺力争于2030年前实现碳达峰、努力争取2060年前实现碳中和，以“碳达峰碳中和”目标为牵引推动绿色转型，以更加积极的姿态开展绿色发展双多边国际合作，推动构建公平合理、合作共赢的全球环境治理体系，为全球可持续发展贡献智慧和力量。

二、绿色空间格局基本形成

中国积极健全国土空间体系，加强生产、生活、生态空间用途统筹和协调管控，加大生态系统保护修复力度，有效扩大生态环境容量，推动自然财富、生态财富快速积累，生态环境保护发生历史性、转折性、全局性变化，为经济社会持续健康发展提供有力支撑。

(一) 优化国土空间开发保护格局

国土是绿色发展的空间载体。中国实施主体功能区战略，建立全国统一、责权清晰、科学高效的国土空间规划体系，统筹人口分布、经济布局、国土利用、生态环境保护等因素，整体谋划