



# China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED)

## 2020–2021 Work Plan

*Note:* Considering the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the CCICED Annual Work Plan (from July 2020 to June 2021) will be reviewed in writing by Executive Members before implementation.

2020 marks the final year of achieving “the moderately prosperous society” and winning the battle for pollution control. The spread of the new coronavirus (COVID-19) in 2020 has had an enormous effect on the global economy and social development. The 15th Conference of the Parties of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 15, Kunming) and the 26th Conference of the Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 26, Glasgow) have been postponed consequently. Faced by the severity and complexity in preventing and controlling the pandemic, considering its impact on the global economy, tasks of pursuing the green recovery of the economy, and unremittingly advancing the sustainable development have been prioritized. It is particularly important to continue to strengthen and innovate international cooperation.

2021 is a year of great transitional significance, as the first year of China’s 14<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan, the final year of CCICED Phase VI, as well as the year to initiate preparation for Phase VII. Under the leadership of the Executive, CCICED will conduct policy studies and organize relevant events under the theme of “**Green Recovery With Resilience and High-Quality Development**,” engaging Members and Special Advisors while mobilizing resources from partners. CCICED will enhance the capacity of the Secretariat, continuously provide high-quality service to its Members and Special Advisors, implement the CCICED Guidance Document on Gender Equality, and ensure the successful preparation of CCICED Phase VII. Below are the main tasks CCICED will carry out during this period:

### I. Policy Research

Carrying out policy studies and providing policy recommendations are the core and fundamental missions of CCICED. In the coming year, CCICED will update and add research topics considering the emerging international and domestic issues in supporting in-depth policy research of 10 Special Policy Study (SPS) teams under the four Task Forces. To strengthen the synergies between the SPS teams, CCICED will formulate special policy reports with a focus on COP 15 and COP 26. More specifically:

## ***Task Force 1: Global Environmental Governance and Ecological Civilization***

### ***1.SPS on Global Climate Governance and China's Role***

This SPS will continue carrying out research on China's medium- to long-term strategies and roadmaps to address climate change and provide recommendations for relevant strategies and policy adjustments, contributing to an ambitious COP 26 in 2021. The SPS will also examine the effectiveness of carbon pricing policies and propose mechanisms and policies to improve China's carbon pricing. The SPS will promote Track 1.5 (mixed) and Track 2 (non-governmental, including private sector) climate expert dialogues to further encourage economic and climate cooperation under bilateral and plurilateral climate initiatives.

### ***2.SPS on Post-2020 Global Biodiversity***

#### ***Conservation***

This SPS will continue to carry out research on the biodiversity conservation agenda for the next 10 years and provide recommendations for COP15; COP 15 is expected to adopt a Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework oriented toward 2030. This SPS will look into the experience of major developed countries in drafting and implementing National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) (priority areas, drafting process, and correlation with global goals), to help build up China's capacity of drawing up and implementing NBSAP. This SPS will also include an in-depth study of ecological protection of the redline and other related practices.

### ***3.SPS on Global Ocean Governance and Ecological Civilization***

This SPS will continue carrying out research in the area of marine environmental governance and ecological conservation, including promoting Green BRI through green shipping and/or optimization of logistic routes with the reduction of pollutants/GHG emission taken into consideration; promoting land-ocean coordination through co-development of ports and coastal cities—including the integrative planning of cities and ports, the development of a green collection and distribution system, construction of green infrastructure, and so on; promoting ocean-climate links; and examining economic and other incentives to strengthen integrated marine management and accelerate blue economy outcomes.

## ***Task Force 2: Green Urbanization and Environmental Improvement***

### ***4.SPS on Green Urbanization Strategy and Pathways Toward Regional Integrated Development***

The SPS will use digital technologies to explore the state of China's future regional economic and urban development pattern through the lens of the ecological civilization and new development concept. For the green transformation of existing cities, the SPS will focus on the integrated planning of city clusters and offer proposals for regional function zoning and layout to promote regional integrated development. The SPS will also carry out case studies on green, carbon-neutral, and climate-resilient development in rural areas of China.

### ***5.SPS on Ecological Compensation and Green Development Institutional Reform in Integrated River Basin Management***

This SPS will draw lessons from the green development of the Yangtze River Economic Belt to study how to achieve high-quality green development

in the Yellow River Basin; carry out research on market-oriented diversified ecological compensation with a focus on linking integrated water resource management approaches with eco-compensation mechanisms; draw on international experience to improve the governance system for facilitating large-scale spatial planning and major functional zoning.

### ***Task Force 3: Innovation, Sustainable Production and Consumption***

#### ***6.SPS on Green Transition and Sustainable Social Governance***

Based on previous studies, this SPS will focus on several areas, including examining best international practices in green products and services, conducting an empirical study of the green consumption indicator system to improve China's national strategies and action plans for green consumption and production; a case study with an in-depth analysis of green logistics; selecting key industries with greater impacts on China's pollution control and high-quality development to carry out case studies on industrial ecological design, and analyzing the resource and environmental benefits of green production and consumption and their contribution to high-quality development via modelling.

#### ***7.SPS on Major Green Technology Innovation and Implementation Mechanisms***

By summarizing the green technology evaluation methodologies and procedures for six topical areas (water, energy, transportation, building, land use and planning, food), the SPS aims to propose a green technology evaluation system with universal value, and develop a periodic list of promising green technologies. The SPS will look into integration,

application, financing and scaling up of green technologies at the community level, focusing on the green renovation technologies and implementation mechanisms for old communities (residential quarters).

### ***Task Force 4: Green Energy, Investment, and Trade***

#### ***8.SPS on Green Belt and Road and 2030***

##### ***Sustainable Development Goals***

This SPS will continue tracking BRI countries' progress in achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. In addition to the research on policy standards, financial tools, and governance structures, the SPS will further investigate and identify potential opportunities brought by the Green BRI development to achieve the 2030 SDGs. Case studies will be conducted on key BRI countries to identify bridging mechanisms with the development strategies of those nations and develop policy recommendations on how Green BRI could facilitate the implementation of the 2030 SDGs.

#### ***9.SPS on Global Green Value Chain***

Based on the policy recommendations from the initial research, this SPS will further develop the corresponding roadmap for China's engagement in enhancing global green value chains of soft commodities. The SPS will examine circular economy policies and innovative practice of enhanced resource efficiency, and identify new opportunities for low-carbon transition and trade. The SPS will go through the circular economy models, policies and good practices of waste management in key industries and sectors, and put forward recommendations on promoting the circular economy of hard commodities.

### ***10.SPS on Green Finance***

This SPS will continue the research on ecological conservation finance, focusing on the role of major asset owners in ecological conservation finance, developing ESG mechanisms and green investment, and the synergies between ecological conservation finance and nature-based solutions.

## **II. Key Events**

### ***1.CCICED 2021 Annual General Meeting***

The CCICED 2021 AGM is scheduled to be held in late May 2021. A series of thematic forums will be scheduled during the AGM that reflect the annual theme and emergent issues relating to environment and development. Policy research findings will be presented and discussed, and policy recommendations will be formulated.

### ***2.CCICED Round Tables***

CCICED will hold round tables in conjunction with

## **III. Operations and Management**

### ***1.Provide High-Quality Service to CCICED Members and Special Advisors***

Regularly publish CCICED newsletter and Annual Report to share the latest CCICED research progress with Members and Special Advisors. Support participation of Members and Special Advisors in CCICED major meetings and activities, as well as with their policy research. Publish timely reports and insights from Members and Special Advisors on websites, WeChat, Facebook, and Twitter.

### ***2.Maintain and Strengthen Partnerships***

Organize the Chief Advisors and Secretariat

### ***Special Policy Report***

The core experts from SPS teams of climate, biodiversity, urbanization, and green value chain will be organized to research nature-based solutions and develop integrated policy recommendations and subsequent reports, contributing inputs for COP 15 and COP 26.

major international and domestic events, including the World Circular Economy Forum (Toronto, 2021) and the Belt and Road Green Innovation Conference (Shenzhen), etc., to exchange international experience and practice.

### ***3.Side Events/Activities***

Based on the SPS research, CCICED plans to hold activities or side events during COP 15, COP 26 and WTO Public Forum, etc., to share CCICED research findings.

Quarterly Joint meetings, regular partner and donor meetings to update them on CCICED working progress and receive feedback. Conduct joint research and co-organize events with CCICED partners to achieve a win-win cooperation.

### ***3.Enhance Capacity of the Chief Advisor Support Groups***

Further optimize the team structure of the Chinese and International Chief Advisors supporting team. Build a team of supporting experts with diversified expertise and research background to better support the work of Chief Advisors.

#### ***4. Enhance Capacity of the Secretariat***

Enhance the overall capacity of the Secretariat with a focus on building capacity for policy research and project management, as well as implementing and mainstreaming the gender equality strategy. Further team building for the Secretariat and the International Support Office through regular work meetings, staff exchanges and facilitating regular communication between Chief Advisors, with a view to providing consistent and effective support for CCICED.

## **IV. Communications**

#### ***1. Publish Timely Research Outputs to Increase Impact on Policy***

Share research findings through key events, including the CCICED AGM and round tables, to enhance exchanges with partners. Continue to draft and publish CCICED Annual Policy Reports (Chinese and English editions) and selected SPS reports. Establish an effective publication mechanism to ensure the timely dissemination of research outputs and submit relevant outputs to senior policy-makers to increase CCICED's impacts on policy-making.

#### ***5. Initiate the Preparatory Work for the CCICED Phase VII***

2021 will be the final year of Phase VI, and CCICED will begin the preparatory work for Phase VII. Based on comments and recommendations from key partners and advisors regarding key research topics, operation mechanisms, etc., the Secretariat will formulate a concept note for Phase VII.

#### ***2. Innovate Communications Strategy to Promote CCICED***

Strengthen cooperation with institutions such as the China Daily and the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) to expand the communications network. Publish CCICED research findings and work progress in a timely manner using different ways and from diversified perspectives through the CCICED website, WeChat (as well as Facebook and Twitter) in order to further expand media coverage and strengthen recognition of CCICED.





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