NGO Cooperation Forum

CHINA ASSOCIATION FOR NGO COOPERATION
中国国际民间组织合作促进会

Issued by China Association for NGO Cooperation (CANGO)
Issue 1 of 2026, Total issue 113

Editor-in-chief: Wang Xiangyi
Layout designer: Ma Zibo
Website: www.cango.vip



2026-March

Policy Update

- Xinhua Commentary: China's 15th Five-Year Plan a global invitation to shared prosperity

Highlights

- Xinhua Commentary: China's 15th Five-Year Plan a global invitation to shared prosperity
- Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference 2026 holds plenary in Hainan
- Remarks by Mr. James George at the Conference of Partnerships for Rural Revitalization and Sustainable Development
- China Development Forum 2026 kicks off in Beijing
- China Focus: China pledges to be "market for the world" as it pursues high-standard opening-up
- China reports improved ecological environment in 2025
- China Focus: Asia plays pivotal role in global green energy transition: report

News about CANGO

- ASEAN-China NTFP Network Conference Kicks Off: Co-building a Resilient Future for Forest Communities' Climate Adaptation and Livelihoods
- CANGO Joins FORUS Global Event: Wang Xiangyi Highlights Women, Youth and Civil Society's Role in SDG Advancement
- CANGO Attends Forus 2026 General Assembly, Advocating Enhanced Experience Sharing and Global NGO Collaboration

Policy Update

Xinhua Commentary: China's 15th Five-Year Plan a global invitation to shared prosperity

BEIJING, March 12 (Xinhua) -- With the adoption of China's new development blueprint for the next five years, the world is seeing far more than a national development roadmap -- it is embracing inclusive growth, technological advancement and win-win cooperation that transcend borders.

The global community is grappling with growing division and conflicts -- from rising protectionism and a widening wealth gap to disrupted supply chains and mounting strains on multilateralism.

To avoid beggar-thy-neighbor practices, the international community must prioritize enhanced cohesion, foster a spirit of openness, and cultivate a long-term vision.

China's 15th Five-Year Plan (2026-2030) reinforces a message that the country is a stable anchor for the world economy and a reliable partner in addressing common challenges. The modernization drive of a country with 1.4 billion people brings certainty and positive momentum to a turbulent world, providing an alternative path in exploring a new form of modernization.

The 15th Five-Year Plan period is critical to basically achieving socialist modernization by 2035. Its focus on high-quality development prioritizes innovation, sustainability, and making domestic demand a more prominent economic driver, which will translate into tangible opportunities across key sectors for investors and businesses worldwide.

Technological self-reliance and strength, a core pillar of the plan, are not about isolation. China's massive investments in artificial intelligence, quantum computing, smart economy, and advanced manufacturing will create new demand for international talent, technology, and partnerships.

Multinational corporations, research institutions, and startups worldwide stand to benefit from expanded access to China's innovation ecosystem -- through joint R&D projects or participation in emerging industrial clusters.

Sustainability, another cornerstone of the plan, aligns China's development with the global fight against climate change and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The plan reinforces China's commitment to achieving peak carbon emissions and carbon neutrality, with ambitious targets for renewable energy deployment, the development of a circular economy, and investments in green infrastructure.

This creates substantial market opportunities for green technology cooperation, spanning European renewable energy firms to African clean energy partners. China is not advancing its green transition in seclusion; rather, it acts as a catalyst for global green initiatives.

By turning its vast population into a primary engine of domestic demand, China is building a more resilient domestic market that is less vulnerable to the whims of global trade cycles and foreign tariffs.In 2025, final consumption expenditure contributed 52 percent of China's economic growth, up by five percentage points from a year earlier. Its ongoing transition to a consumption-driven economy means fresh opportunities for foreign goods, services and investments.

Contrary to the narrative of decoupling promoted by some, China is doubling down on connecting its market with the world as enormous opportunities lie in the plan's emphasis on high-standard opening up.

The plan pledges to further liberalize trade and investment, upgrade pilot free trade zones, and optimize the business environment for foreign investors, including stronger intellectual property rights protection and fairer competition policies. This means greater access to China's super-large consumer market, where demand for high-quality goods and services is on the rise.The plan reaffirms China's commitment to inclusive global development through initiatives like the Belt and Road Initiative to boost connectivity, green development, and people-to-people exchanges.

In addition, the adoption of the law on national development planning, which sets the rules for formulating and implementing the country's five-year plans, marks a pivotal step in institutionalizing long-term economic governance. The legislation delivers greater policy transparency and predictability for foreign investors, which reinforces China's appeal as a stable, high-potential destination for global capital.

The 15th Five-Year Plan is a testament to China's conviction that unity, strength and resolve will prevail. Global prosperity is by no means a zero-sum game. China's development is closely intertwined with the development of other countries.

The world needs neither new divisions nor confrontations; it requires vision, cooperation, and action. China's new Five-Year Plan extends an invitation to those willing to collaborate for a safer, cleaner, and brighter future. It embodies a promise of stability and partnership, offering a gift to a world that is desperately seeking direction and hope.

For detailed information about China's Two Sessions, please click on the following link to learn more:
https://english.news.cn/special/2026lh/index.html

https://english.news.cn/20250218/0067d0411acc483685d7cec625318114/c.html

Highlights

Xi Story: A decade's efforts turn ice and snow into economic drivers

https://english.news.cn/20251013/a9ce938022c340b5abbf825c83d965c6/c.html

Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference 2026 holds plenary in Hainan

https://english.news.cn/20251012/4494c2d17ddb4fec991acfb7a7f81fef/c.html

Remarks by Mr. James George at the Conference of Partnerships for Rural Revitalization and Sustainable Development

https://en.people.cn/n3/2025/1010/c90000-20375222.html

China Development Forum 2026 kicks off in Beijing

https://english.news.cn/20251208/81e04fe6e71a40b4a05591e14acefc8c/c.html

China Focus: China pledges to be "market for the world" as it pursues high-standard opening-up

http://www.chinaview.cn/20251218/6e5a346ddd8c447d81492977f7436915/c.html

China reports improved ecological environment in 2025

https://www.idcpc.org.cn/english2023/ttxw_5749/202510/t20251029_167976.html

China Focus: Asia plays pivotal role in global green energy transition: report



BOAO, Hainan, March 24 (Xinhua) -- Asia is emerging as a pivotal force in the global shift toward greener, low-carbon energy, moving from "the largest center of traditional energy consumption" to "a leader in clean energy development," according to a report released Tuesday by the Boao Forum for Asia (BFA).

Titled "Sustainable Development: Asia and the World Annual Report 2026 -- Sustainable Development in Asia amid Global Transformation," the report underscores the region's growing weight in shaping the global energy transition.

It notes that digitalization and green transitions are laying the foundation for a new "Asian Miracle."

Asia's role in the global green energy transition is critical as it is home to the world's largest population, generates about half of the global GDP and accounts for more than half of global energy consumption.

Across the region, China, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, ASEAN and Gulf countries are developing renewable energy such as solar and wind power in light of local conditions, while also advancing technologies, including hydrogen, grid modernization, and carbon capture, utilization and storage, with the green economy showing strong growth momentum, says the report.

The numbers illustrate the shift. Asia's installed power generation capacity has surpassed 5.3 terawatts, with renewables accounting for 2.67 terawatts, or about half of the total. As a result, the region now represents 58 percent of global installed renewable energy capacity.

"Asia's green transition, particularly energy transition, is deepening and positioning the region as a spearheading global force," said Li Baosen, deputy secretary-general of the Global Energy Interconnection Development and Cooperation Organization (GEIDCO), a contributor to the report.

During the process, China stands out as a key driver, Li added. "In 2025, China's total installed clean energy capacity reached 2.4 billion kilowatts, representing roughly 45 percent of the global total."

"Notably, China's combined wind and solar capacity has, for the first time, surpassed that of thermal power, an expansion that highlights China's growing contribution to energy transformation both in Asia and the world," Li added.

Meanwhile, the region is also making rapid advances in emerging green technologies, positioning itself as a potential leader. In 2025, Asia's investments in technologies related to solar energy, wind energy, batteries and hydrogen energy accounted for 65 percent, 64 percent, 41 percent and 48 percent of global totals, respectively, playing a crucial role in accelerating the advancement of global low-carbon technologies, according to the report.

Despite significant progress, the report also points out that Asia still faces constraints, including entrenched reliance on fossil fuels, underdeveloped power grid infrastructure and gaps in green financing. These factors, the report notes, could slow the pace of transition if not addressed through coordinated policy and investment.

To navigate these obstacles, the report calls for a shift toward energy systems defined by clean-energy dominance, greater electrification, stronger interconnectivity and smarter efficiency. It urges Asian countries to adopt transition pathways suited to their national conditions while strengthening regional coordination.

Founded in 2001, the BFA is a non-governmental and non-profit international organization committed to promoting regional economic integration and bringing Asian countries closer to their development goals.

Themed "Shaping a Shared Future: New Dynamics, New Opportunities, New Cooperation," the BFA Annual Conference 2026 runs from March 24 to 27 in Boao, a coastal town in China's southernmost island province of Hainan.

https://english.news.cn/20250218/0067d0411acc483685d7cec625318114/c.html

News about CANGO



ASEAN-China NTFP Network Conference Kicks Off: Co-building a Resilient Future for Forest Communities' Climate Adaptation and Livelihoods

Held in Chiang Mai, Thailand from March 18 to 20, the launch conference for the project "Rooted Networks ASEAN-China" Advancing Climate & Livelihood Resilience for Forest Communities was themed Co-Cultivating the Future: Flourishing with Forest Communities. It gathered nearly 60 participants from China, Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam, including social organization representatives, forestry scholars and forest community practitioners, building a cross-regional civil cooperation platform to address forest ecological degradation and fragile community livelihoods.



Centered on non-timber forest products (NTFP), the conference focused on climate resilience and sustainable forest community development. Through keynote speeches, multi-country case sharing, field visits and co-creation workshops, it boosted cross-border knowledge exchange and officially launched the ASEAN-China NTFP Network, fueling regional forestry protection and community development.



On March 18, representatives from Thai forestry authorities, EarthCare Foundation (ECF) and China Association for NGO Cooperation (CANGO) delivered opening remarks. Experts from Beijing Forestry University (BFU), Chiang Mai University, Indonesian Traditional Wisdom Network and Vietnamese Academy of Forest Sciences shared cutting-edge views on NTFP development in the region. The highlight was the multi-country case sharing, with 10 typical cases presented around four themes, showcasing innovative practices in integrating forest protection and livelihood development across the four nations. Later, CANGO's Wang Xiangyi moderated a roundtable dialogue on policy-practice integration, where experts clarified the network's key future tasks and reached cooperation consensus.

On March 19, participants visited Ban Ton Phung Forest Community in Chiang Mai. Founded in 2022, the community reversed its ecological and developmental woes via afforestation, carbon sink storage and community enterprises, with its under-forest leaf products generating 100,000-120,000 Thai Baht annually for 52 households. It also recycles agricultural waste for seedling pots, cutting plastic use and burning, offering valuable on-site experience for the participants.

March 20 saw the conference's action planning and network launch phase. The CANGO-led Community Group defined the network's goals, operation mechanisms and platform construction, while the BFU-led Scholar Group reached consensus on academic network building and knowledge product development. The official launch ceremony of the ASEAN-China NTFP Network followed, laying a foundation for long-term cross-border cooperation.



Hosted by CANGO and co-hosted by BFU and Chiang Mai University's Faculty of Agriculture, the two-year project is funded by ECF and supported by the Beijing Service Centre for Overseas Non-governmental Organizations (BSCONGO). With CANGO as the network builder, BFU as the academic lead and Tianjin Man in Man Social Service Centre as the community implementer, the conference's core achievement—the ASEAN-China NTFP Action Network—aims to break regional knowledge barriers and integrate grassroots wisdom, academic research and policy support.

Wang Xiangyi noted that climate change brings dual pressures to forest communities, and the project will build an inclusive cooperation platform to turn local practices into shared regional strategies for ecological protection and livelihood improvement. He Xiufang of ECF thanked all partners, stating that the foundation's support for the project aims to build a regional cooperation bridge via NTFPs, balancing ecological protection and community well-being.

CANGO Joins Forus CSW70 Official Side Event : Wang Xiangyi Highlights Women, Youth and Civil Society's Role in SDG Advancement

In the first quarter of 2026, the FORUS International hosted a high-profile global event themed Leading Change: How Women, Youth and Civil Society are Accelerating the SDGs from the Ground Up, gathering civil society organizations, youth representatives, gender equality advocates and global development partners from across the world. The event centered on the core mission of advancing the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, exploring actionable paths for women and youth—two key groups—to drive grassroots SDG implementation through civil society's strength, and facilitating cross-border and cross-sector collaboration to address global development challenges such as inequality, climate change and social inclusion.



Wang Xiangyi, Vice Chair and Secretary General of the China Association for NGO Cooperation (CANGO), was invited to deliver a speech at the event, sharing China's civil society practices in empowering women and youth for SDG advancement and putting forward pragmatic insights for global collaboration.

Wang emphasized that women and youth are the core driving forces of grassroots sustainable development, and civil society organizations act as an irreplaceable bridge connecting global agendas with local actions. She noted that CANGO has long been committed to integrating gender equality and youth empowerment into its global and domestic development projects, building multi-stakeholder cooperation platforms to support women-led grassroots organizations and youth innovation initiatives in rural revitalization, climate resilience, digital inclusion and other fields. By translating international SDG frameworks into localized action plans, CANGO has enabled more women and youth in marginalized communities to participate in and benefit from sustainable development, and accumulated replicable grassroots experience.

Calling for deeper global south-south cooperation and cross-border civil society exchanges, Wang pointed out that accelerating SDG advancement requires joint efforts to remove structural barriers for women and youth's participation, including increasing funding support for grassroots women and youth organizations, strengthening capacity building and knowledge sharing, and building an inclusive global cooperation network that listens to and amplifies the voices of grassroots actors. She also stated that CANGO is willing to work with FORUS International and global civil society partners to further deepen cooperation in women and youth empowerment, jointly explore innovative models of civil society participation in SDG implementation, and contribute more grassroots wisdom and Chinese practices to the global sustainable development cause.

https://english.news.cn/20250218/0067d0411acc483685d7cec625318114/c.html

CANGO Attends Forus 2026 General Assembly, Advocating Enhanced Experience Sharing and Global NGO Collaboration

From March 23 to 27, 2026, the Forus General Assembly was held in Siem Reap, Cambodia, attracting 94 representatives (including 27 online attendees) from member organizations across over 50 countries and regions. On behalf of the China Association for NGO Cooperation (CANGO), Lelia Yanling Li, Director of Corporate Engagement of the International Cooperation Department, attended the General Assembly.



The General Assembly focused on the Forus Strategic Plan 2026–2030 and its statutes, as well as the election of new council members. Through the opening session, panel discussions, regional meetings and meetings with local Cambodian NGOs, participants conducted in-depth exchanges on the current global context and emerging trends of sustainable development, approaches to addressing challenges, and the building of a support ecosystem to empower Forus members. Key issues such as effective engagement with policymakers, data-driven advocacy strategies and resource mobilization also attracted extensive attention from representatives.

During the General Assembly, participants emphasized strengthening interactions with multilateral development banks, influencing their project evaluation processes and securing financial support. They also explored specific approaches to establishing connections with international organizations including the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).



Given the common challenges faced by NGOs, Lelia Yanling Li advocated for building momentum for members, promoting experience sharing among Forus member organizations, and strengthening exchanges on institutional strategy, resource mobilization, policy advocacy and other areas, so as to enhance the capacity of NGOs and promote pragmatic cooperation between institutions.



To brief all participants on China's policies and new progress in global governance, CANGO invited Associate Professor Li Li from the College of International Development and Global Agriculture, China Agricultural University, to deliver a pre-recorded video speech at the opening session. She noted that China's international development cooperation is moving towards greater inclusiveness, pragmatism and multilateralism,

adhering to development priority and the principle of no political strings attached, and welcomed international NGOs to participate in global governance as partners. She also shared practical experience of South-South cooperation projects implemented by institutions such as China Agricultural University, which aroused active attention from participants.

Leveraging Forus's network and resources, CANGO will continue to actively promote the participation of Chinese NGOs in global governance, facilitate cross-regional experience sharing and international cooperation, and contribute the strength of China's civil wisdom to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.