



Sino-German Center for Sustainable Development

A new chapter in the development partnership between Germany and China

Context

For forty years now, Germany and China have been successfully working together in development co-operation. China has developed rapidly over recent decades, enabling several hundred million people to be lifted out of extreme poverty, while providing aid to developing countries in the framework of South-South cooperation. In parallel with China's development, the focus of German-Chinese cooperation has shifted: Traditional bilateral development cooperation between Germany and China has been phased out. Today, both countries are jointly fostering sustainable development within a global context.

Having recognized the potential synergies between official development cooperation as delivered by Germany and development aid and South-South cooperation as provided by China, the Chinese Minister of Commerce, Zhong Shan, and the German Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Dr Gerd Müller, jointly established the Sino-German Center for Sustainable Development (CSD) in 2017, with the aim of institutionalizing the partnership.

The establishment of the CSD introduces a new chapter in the development partnership between China and Germany. At the same time, it is a concrete effort to vitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development enshrined in the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Acknowledging that public

support will not be sufficient to tackle global challenges, partnerships with the Chinese and German business sectors are being sought.

Objective

China and Germany combine their international efforts towards building an inclusive, sustainable and resilient future for humankind and the planet.

Partners

The CSD is jointly steered by:



Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China



Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of the Federal Republic of Germany

Implementing partners of the CSD are:



Trade Development Bureau (TDB)
www.tdb.mofcom.gov.cn/



Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
www.giz.de/en



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Approach

New and innovative means of international cooperation for sustainable development are jointly developed and implemented reverting to international, Chinese and German experiences and good practices but also piloting trial measures. Thus strengths of development cooperation, South–South cooperation, and private sector involvement can be combined, and comparative advantages used.

More concretely, the CSD operates in three pillars:

1. Sino-German Dialogue on Development Cooperation

A prerequisite for Germany and China to develop synergies and act together in the field of development cooperation is a deeper understanding of their respective development policies, aid delivery systems, and their specific advantages. To this end, the CSD supports the policy and technical dialogue on development cooperation between China and Germany to promote mutual understanding on the implementation of the Agenda 2030.

The CSD has:

- supported and fed lessons learnt from implementation level into the Sino-German Development Cooperation Commission meetings—the political dialogue between the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Ministry of Commerce of China;
- facilitated the start of an in-depth exchange on foreign aid policies, regulations and planning between the China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development during a delegation mission to Germany;



www.sg-csd.org/news_events/20190630/

- held two Sino-German Sustainable Development Fora in cooperation with various governmental bodies, research institutions, implementing organizations, business associations from China, Germany, and

internationally, to facilitate open discussions on international development cooperation in an inclusive manner;



For more information, please visit:

The 1st Sino-German Forum in Munich
www.sg-csd.org/news_events/20171113/
The 2nd Sino-German Forum in Beijing
www.sg-csd.org/news_events/20181207/

- facilitated a joint research project between the German Development Institute (GDI/DIE) and China's Center for International Knowledge on Development (CIKD) on *Exporting out of China or out of Africa? Automation versus Relocation in the Global Clothing Industry*;
- organized the Summer School on Sustainable Development – *From Global Goals to Local Implementation. Learning Opportunity on International Practice from the North and the South*, in the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing.

Visit here for more information:

www.sg-csd.org/news_events/20190727/

A variety of governmental organizations, research and academic institutions is taking part in the dialogue and contributes to it. Thus, the CSD is not only providing the framework for the Sino-German development partnership, but also supporting cooperation systems and networks for a global partnership for sustainable development.

2. Triangular Cooperation Projects

As a concrete step to develop solutions for global development challenges, the Center identifies, assesses, prepares, accompanies and monitors triangular cooperation projects between Germany, China, and third countries, particularly in Africa and Asia. Addressing the need and request from the partner countries, the CSD

brings the three or more parties together and develops innovative cooperation models. The experience and lessons learnt are in return summarized and fed into the Sino-German Dialogue on Development Cooperation.

Two triangular projects have been formally endorsed under the CSD with more to be announced soon:

Technical Vocational Education and Training for Rural Jobs in Laos

www.sg-csd.org/projects/tvet_for_laos/

Implemented by the Vocational Education Development Institute of Laos, Qingdao Education Bureau and Pingdu Secondary Vocational Technical School in China, and the GIZ, the project provides theoretical and practical training in China for Laotian vocational training teachers, aiming at increasing their knowledge and skills in rural occupations based on the model of a dual, praxis oriented vocational education.



The project was formally announced in May 2019. It is currently planned until September 2021.

Sustainable Textile Investment and Operation in Ethiopia

www.sg-csd.org/projects/textile_for_ethiopia/

The project aims at improving the environmental, social and labor standard of Ethiopia's textile sector through capacity development and awareness raising for Chinese investors/factory managers and their local business partners with a potential scaling-up and replication elsewhere in Africa and Asia. It is implemented by the United Nation's Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) through its Programme for Country Partnership, the GIZ, China National Textile and Apparel Council (CNTAC), and the Ethiopian Textile Industry Development Institute (ETIDI).

The project started in May 2020 with an inception phase. Overall project duration is 18 months until October 2021.

3. Partnership with Businesses

The CSD actively seeks partnerships with German and Chinese enterprises to utilize the potential of business activities to promote sustainable development in third countries.

The Chinese South-South Cooperation model combines aid, trade and investment with a focus on developing infrastructure. Chinese enterprises are increasingly important suppliers in Africa. German development cooperation links public development cooperation with private sector engagement for sustainable development and focusses on capacity development in partner countries. Cooperation linking business and development can bring a benefit for developing countries, but also for Chinese and German enterprises.

For CSD, cooperation models with German and Chinese businesses include but are not limited to:

Responsible Business Conduct

The CSD cooperates with Chinese business associations to support the development and implementation of sustainability guidelines for Chinese enterprises abroad in the areas of infrastructure, textile, forestry and mining.

Sponsoring Development

Through a direct business contribution to a development cooperation project, Chinese and German enterprises working globally are not only putting resources into third countries, but also enabling themselves to implement Corporate Social Responsibility goals and strategies, and creating positive images and credibility.

develoPPP.de

In the framework of develoPPP.de, Chinese and German companies can work together to develop their business and foster local development sustainably. The German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development offers financial and technical support for companies which are ready to set up and co-fund projects in areas where business and developmental interest overlap.

www.developpp.de/en/



The CSD also actively seeks and promotes business partnerships in public dialogues. In June 2019, it co-organized the Sino-German Sustainability Summit in Beijing together with TÜV Rheinland.

Contact Information

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Learn more about CSD: www.sg-csd.org



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