

About 30 national scientific and research organizations from countries and regions along the Belt and Road Initiative issued a declaration on November 8, 2016 in Beijing.

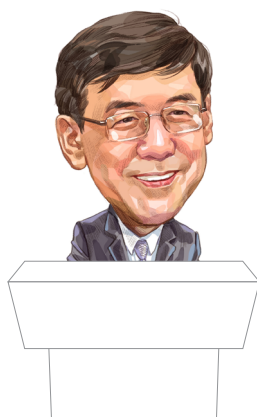
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## Projects

Scientific and technological innovation is playing an active role in the construction of the Belt and Road with increasingly apparent effectiveness.

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## Analysis



There is an urgent need to strengthen cooperation for science and technological innovation for the construction of the Belt and Road Initiative.

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# new stories of the Silk Road

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February, 2017

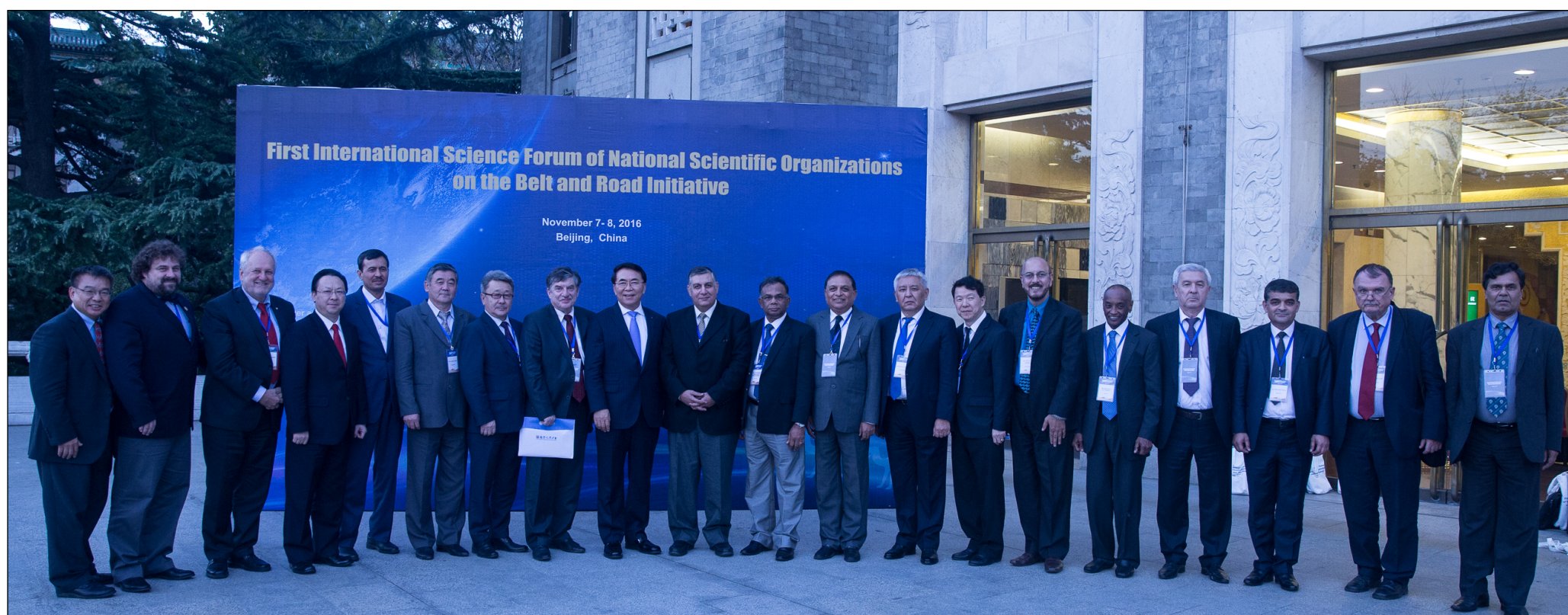
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## Science and technology cooperation connects Belt and Road countries

Science and innovation not only hold the promise of solutions to a lot of the complex common scientific challenges in the development of the Belt and Road Initiative, but can be of significant value for upgrading the capacity and quality of the connectedness and cooperation between China and the countries along the Belt and Road regions in regards to policy, infrastructure, transportation, trade and assets, and people to people dimensions—all the key aspects of emphasis for development.





## Scientific alliance to develop closer Belt and Road ties

About 30 national scientific and research organizations from countries and regions along the Belt and Road Initiative issued a declaration on November 8, 2016 in Beijing, establishing an alliance of international scientists to promote cross-border cooperation.

The declaration, "Beijing Declaration", was made after a two-day forum attended by more than 350 scientists and representatives from 40 countries and regions.

At the forum, the scientists' discussion centered on scientific and technological innovation and coordinated development of the Belt and Road Initiative countries. They reached a broad consensus on the important role of science and technology in building the Belt and Road Initiative.

Although the countries and regions along the Belt and Road Initiative differ in their natural environment, economic development, social system, history, and culture, they are confronted with numerous difficulties and challenges in sustainable development.

Scientific and technological innovation and international cooperation are the keys to solving these problems. Building the Belt and Road and promoting sustainable development is badly in need of cooperation between the research institutes and scientists along the Belt and Road, so as to solve major scientific problems. The cooperation will provide scientific and technological support for the Belt and Road construction.

Scientific organizations that issued the declaration include the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the Russian Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Kazakhstan, National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, Tribhuvan University of Nepal, the Pakistan Academy of Sciences, the Polish Academy of Sciences, Sri Lanka's University of Ruhuna, the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan, the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development and the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World.

According to the declaration, scientific and technological innovation is an important driving force of the Belt and Road construction and should become a priority cooperation field. The national academies of sciences and research institutes along the route are an essential force and play a strategic and leading role in the progress. All the countries along the Belt and Road shall mobilize and unite the scientists, jointly promote the development of international science and technology cooperation in various forms, constantly improve the technological innovation capability, solve a group of challenges and urgent problems during the countries' sustainable development, and make a positive contribution to common development. Special attention should be paid to the role of young scientists and the participation of female scientists. They will strive to ensure all decision-making is responsible and scientific.

The research institutes of the countries and regions along the Belt and Road are willing to launch a long-term mechanism for scientific and technological cooperation, build an effective innovation platform featuring information sharing, promote cooperation research and innovation, conduct strategy consultation, boost multilateral communication on policies, and the enhancement of research and teaching capability, the document stated.

A working group will be built for the mechanism and an alliance of international scientists will be established to organize cooperation programs.

Other mechanisms also include holding the forum every two years, multilateral personnel exchange and student training programs, and joint scientific research projects.

Joint research will be conducted by institutes and organizations along the Belt and Road, who will make full use of their own geographical features and competitive disciplines. Scientists will center on a group of issues relating to science and technology, ranging from resources, environment, economy, people's livelihood, and sustainable development.

The Belt and Road construction focuses on the

Group photo of the First International Science Forum of National Scientific Organizations on the Belt and Road Initiative in Beijing on November 7 to 8, 2016.

Photo / Chinese Academy of Sciences



Chinese and international scientists and experts attend the First International Science Forum of National Scientific Organizations on the Belt and Road Initiative in Beijing on November 7 to 8, 2016.

Photo / Chinese Academy of Sciences



President of Chinese Academy of Sciences Bai Chunli delivers speech at the First International Science Forum of National Scientific Organizations on the Belt and Road Initiative on November 7 to 8, 2016.

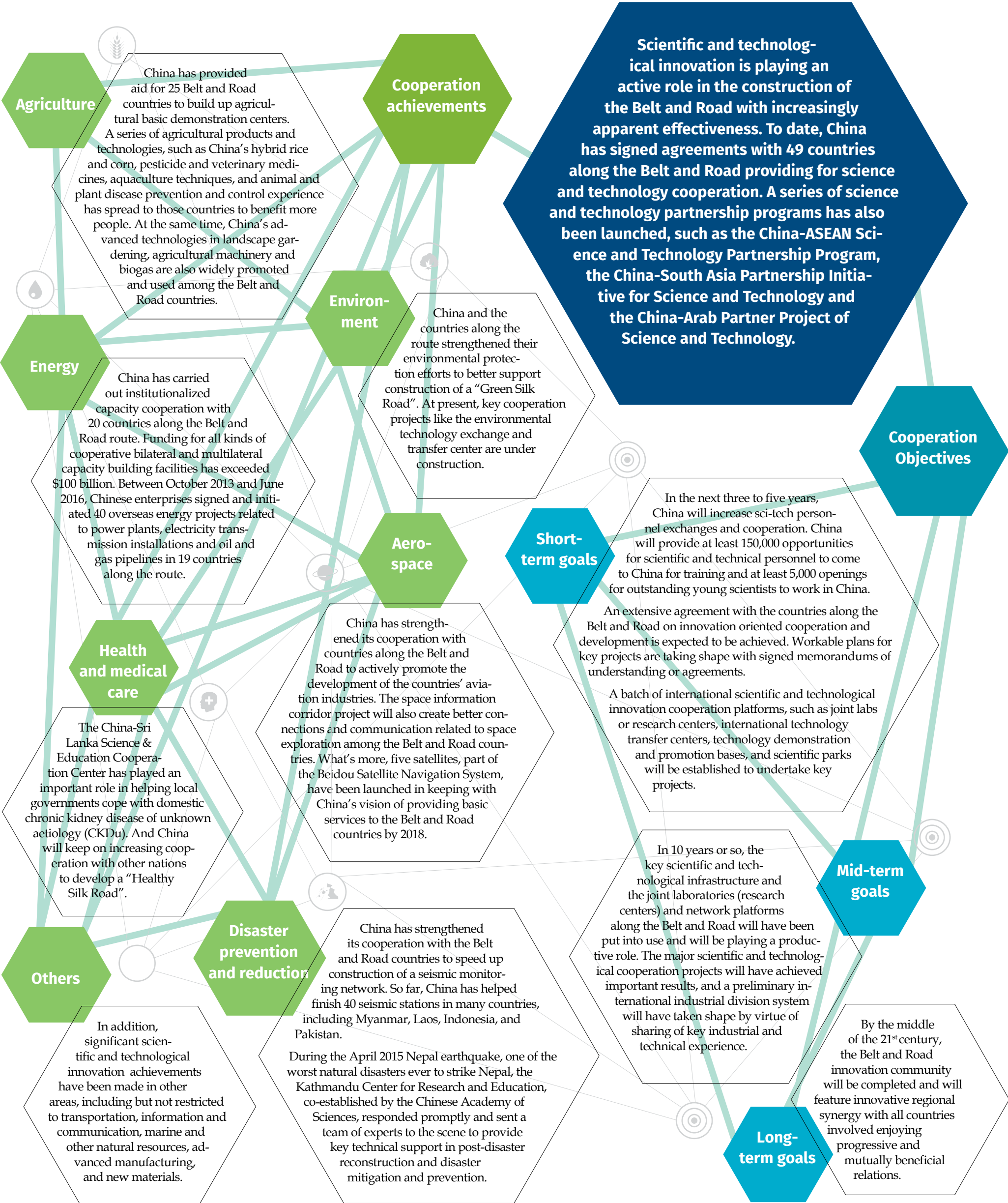
Photo / Chinese Academy of Sciences

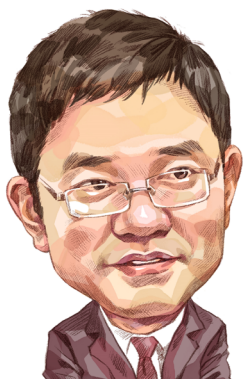
common development of mankind, conforms to the fundamental interests of the international community, reflects the common ideal and pursuit of human society, and will inject new positive energy into world peace and development.

The declaration also calls on the scientific and technological research institutes to carry out international cooperation and information sharing and make continuous contributions to the prosperity and green development for countries along the route.



# Scientific and technological innovation: the vital engine in constructing the Belt and Road



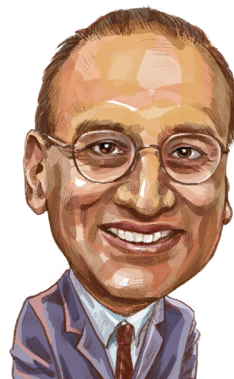


**Rungroge Kamondetdacha,**  
Director for Industry 4.0 at the National Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Office, Ministry of Science and Technology, Thailand

Science and technology, innovation and industrialization are the themes of Thailand's Industry 4.0. The development of enterprises and technology as well as their industrialization are definitely the way to bring different kinds of opportunities together so as to promote economic development through the integration of bio-technology, embedded technology, and smart and innovative technology.

Thailand hopes to revitalize the eastern region into its innovation base to further promote cooperation between research organizations, governments and universities, and to make its due contribution to the Belt and Road Initiative.

Science and Technology Daily



**Venkatraman Ramakrishnan,**  
President of the Royal Society, UK and a winner of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2009

The combination of geographies and cultures along the Belt and Road Initiative has distinct diversity. It asks for scientific research in many fields, such as energy utilization, biological research and agriculture. The cooperation in scientific research will provide support in meeting different challenges.

Wenhui Bao



**Yin Hejun,**  
Vice-minister of Science and Technology, China

There is an urgent need to strengthen cooperation for science and technological innovation for the construction of the Belt and Road Initiative. China and other countries along the Belt and Road have development needs and conditions in common and are challenged with the same problems in many fields; thus strengthened cooperation and research to tackle the key problems with joint efforts through cooperation is required.

China is willing to share achievements and experience in science and technology development with other countries along the Belt and Road to promote mutually prosperous and sustainable development.

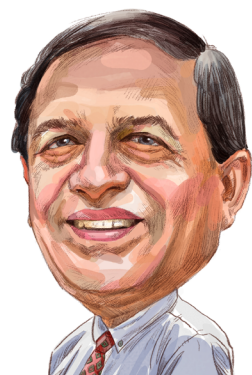
Science and Technology Daily



**Abdel Fattah al-Sisi,** President of Egypt

Egypt holds an important position in the Arab world and Africa, and is an important force for the construction of the Belt and Road Initiative. Egypt will spare no efforts to advance the initiative together with China. Egypt and China have enjoyed increasing exchanges and cooperation in fields such as science, technology and education in recent years. Egyptian economic and social development should learn from the Chinese experience of science and technology education. We hope Egypt and China will send more international students to study in each other's country.

Xinhua



**Eklabya Sharma,**  
Director Program Operations at the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development

The construction of the Belt and Road Initiative is facing many complicated challenges, such as global climate changes, natural disasters and some other uncertain factors. It's necessary to solve the complicated problems emerging in the construction through scientific innovation and international cooperation. Different countries and regions should have all-round cooperation in science and technological innovation to provide strong support services for the initiative's construction and coordinated development.

Economic Daily



**Zabta Khan Shinwari,** Secretary-general of the Pakistan Academy of Sciences

The Belt and Road Initiative brings numerous benefits to the involved countries and regions. Pakistan and China maintain a brotherhood and help each other forward, as do the Pakistan Academy of Sciences and Chinese Academy of Sciences. The governments of Pakistan and China are carrying out a series of development measures, such as the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.

Meanwhile, the Pakistan Academy of Sciences and Chinese Academy of Sciences have reached several memorandums of understanding regarding international cooperation scientific research projects, which will in turn promote the development of many other projects.

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