Hot Issue

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.



Projects

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



Analysis



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



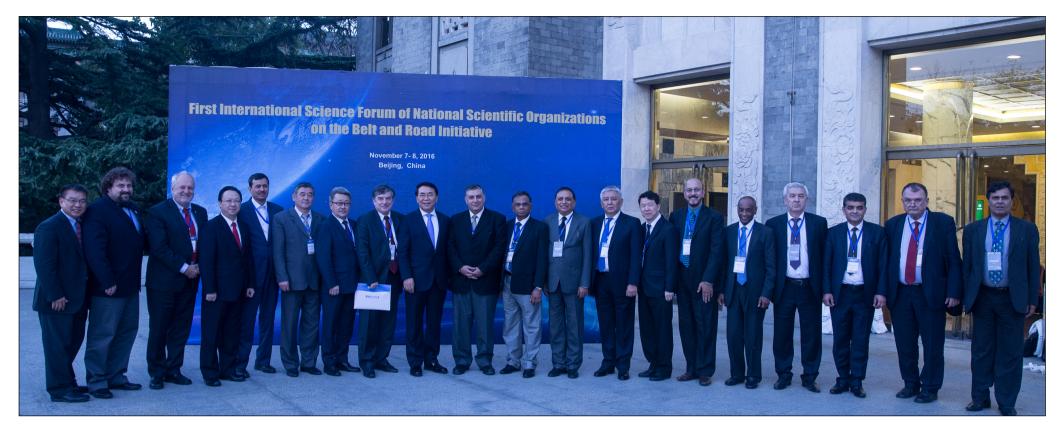
new stories SIRRORD No. of the SIRRORD No. 77

February, 2017 pressoffice@idcpc.org.cn



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

bout 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 Bejjing 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

Agriculture

China has provided aid for 25 Belt and Road countries to build up agricultural basic demonstration centers. A series of agricultural products and technologies, such as China's hybrid rice and corn, pesticide and veterinary medicines, aquaculture techniques, and animal and plant disease prevention and control experience has spread to those countries to benefit more people. At the same time, China's advanced technologies in landscape gardening, agricultural machinery and biogas are also widely promoted and used among the Belt and Road countries.

Energy

China has carried out institutionalized capacity cooperation with 20 countries along the Belt and Road route. Funding for all kinds of cooperative bilateral and multilateral capacity building facilities has exceeded \$100 billion. Between October 2013 and June 2016, Chinese enterprises signed and initiated 40 overseas energy projects related to power plants, electricity transmission installations and oil and gas pipelines in 19 countries along the route.

Health and medical care

The China-Sri
Lanka Science &
Education Cooperation Center has played an
important role in helping local
governments cope with domestic
chronic kidney disease of unknown
aetiology (CKDu). And China
will keep on increasing cooperation with other nations
to develop a "Healthy
Silk Road".

Others

Disaster prevention and reduction

In addition,
significant scientific and technological
innovation achievements
have been made in other
areas, including but not restricted
to transportation, information and
communication, marine and
other natural resources, advanced manufacturing,
and new materials.

Cooperation achievements

Environment

China and the countries along the route strengthened their environmental protection efforts to better support construction of a "Green Silk Road". At present, key cooperation projects like the environmental technology exchange and transfer center are under construction.

Aerospace Shor term go

China has strengthened its cooperation with countries along the Belt and Road to actively promote the development of the countries' aviation industries. The space information corridor project will also create better connections and communication related to space exploration among the Belt and Road countries. What's more, five satellites, part of the Beidou Satellite Navigation System, have been launched in keeping with China's vision of providing basic services to the Belt and Road countries by 2018.

China has strengthened its cooperation with the Belt and Road countries to speed up construction of a seismic monitoring network. So far, China has helped finish 40 seismic stations in many countries, including Myanmar, Laos, Indonesia, and Pakistan.

During the April 2015 Nepal earthquake, one of the worst natural disasters ever to strike Nepal, the Kathmandu Center for Research and Education, co-established by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, responded promptly and sent a team of experts to the scene to provide key technical support in post-disaster reconstruction and disaster mitigation and prevention.

Scientific and technological innovation is playing an active role in the construction of the Belt and Road with increasingly apparent effectiveness. To date, China has signed agreements with 49 countries along the Belt and Road providing for science and technology cooperation. A series of science and technology partnership programs has also been launched, such as the China-ASEAN Science and Technology Partnership Program, the China-South Asia Partnership Initiative for Science and Technology and the China-Arab Partner Project of Science and Technology.

Cooperation
Objectives

Shortterm goals

In the next three to five years,
China will increase sci-tech personnel exchanges and cooperation. China will provide at least 150,000 opportunities for scientific and technical personnel to come to China for training and at least 5,000 openings for outstanding young scientists to work in China.

An extensive agreement with the countries along the Belt and Road on innovation oriented cooperation and development is expected to be achieved. Workable plans for key projects are taking shape with signed memorandums of understanding or agreements.

A batch of international scientific and technological innovation cooperation platforms, such as joint labs or research centers, international technology transfer centers, technology demonstration and promotion bases, and scientific parks will be established to undertake key projects.

In 10 years or so, the key scientific and technological infrastructure and the joint laboratories (research centers) and network platforms along the Belt and Road will have been put into use and will be playing a productive role. The major scientific and technological cooperation projects will have achieved important results, and a preliminary international industrial division system will have taken shape by virtue of sharing of key industrial and technical experience.

Mid-tern goals

By the middle of the 21st century, the Belt and Road innovation community will be completed and will feature innovative regional synergy with all countries involved enjoying progressive and mutually beneficial

relations.

Longterm goals

4 analysis

February, 2017



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

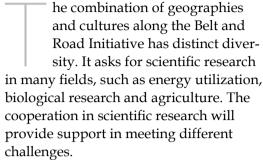
cience and technology, innovation and industrialization are the themes of Thailand's Industry 4.0. The development of enterprises and technology as well as their industrialization are definitely the way to bring different kinds of opportunities together so as to promote economic development through the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



Wenhui Bao



Yin Hejun,Vice-minister of
Science and Tech

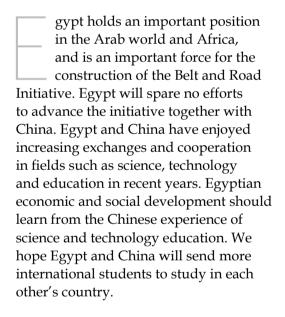
here is an urgent need to strengthen cooperation for science and technological innovation for the construction of the Belt and Road Initiative. China and other countries along the Belt and Road have development needs and conditions in common and are challenged with the same problems in many fields; thus 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



Xinhua



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

he 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 allround 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 Pakistar Academy of he 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.

china.com.cn