



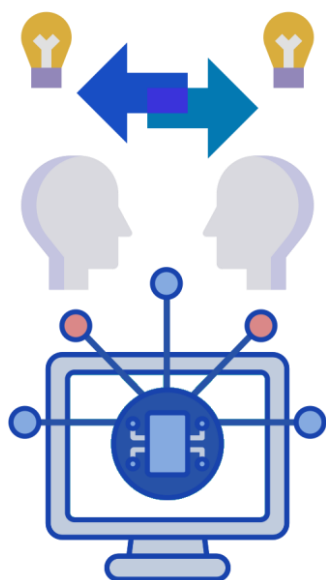
澜沧江-湄公河环境合作中心
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Newsletter

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Experts' Viewpoints at the Forum on the Knowledge-Sharing Platform for South-South Cooperation on Climate Change



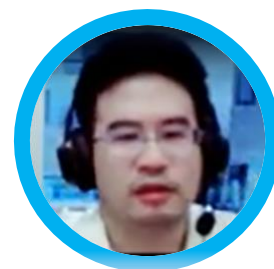
On September 15, 2021, the Forum on the Knowledge-Sharing Platform for South-South Cooperation on Climate Change hosted by the Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center, Ministry of Ecology and Environment (hereinafter referred to as the Center) was held in Beijing in the form of a combination of online and offline. Representatives from the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and relevant international organizations attended the forum. Representatives from the Department of Climate Change and the Department of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment, the People's Republic of China, attended the meeting and delivered speeches. The Center representatives made introductory remarks, introduced the latest progress in the establishment of the Knowledge-Sharing Platform for South-South Cooperation on Climate Change (hereinafter referred to as the Platform) and the framework for partners to participate in the Platform establishment and development. Representatives of participating international organizations and strategic partners conducted exchanges and discussions on issues regarding South-South Cooperation on climate change, and focused on in-depth communication on specific methods of participating in the Platform construction in the next step.

The guests' speeches and the opinions of the partners are summarized as follows.

Chen Zihua

Director of the Department of Climate Change of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment

As a responsible major country, China has always proactively assumed and fulfilled the responsibilities and obligations of South-South Cooperation on climate change. It has cooperated with relevant countries to build low-carbon demonstration zones and carry out capacity-building activities to vigorously promote South-South Cooperation on climate change, which has been recognized by the international community. The Platform is expected to become an important platform for the international community to share wisdom and experience in addressing climate change. Moreover, it is also hoped that relevant international institutions can strongly support the Platform in terms of resources and cases and leverage it to continuously carry out practical cooperation in key areas. Meanwhile, South-South Cooperation on climate change requires continuous innovation in working methods. On the basis of respecting the will of developing countries, we can explore different forms of cooperation that are beneficial to addressing global climate change.



Zhou Jun

Director of the Department of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment



Under the framework of China-ASEAN, Lancang-Mekong, and Sino-African environmental cooperation mechanisms, China has carried out various practical cooperation projects with relevant South-South countries, and accumulated many cases and useful experience. The effective integration and sharing of these valuable experiences through the Platform has important demonstration significance and practical value. At the same time, relevant international organizations and institutions also have good business practices and case foundations in South-South Cooperation on climate change. In the future, it is also hoped that relevant institutions can combine their own advantages to contribute to the establishment and development of the Platform.

Yu Xin

Project Director of WWF

The relevant WWF teams are carrying out research and practical work on the green supply chain and sustainable consumption under the framework of Nature-based Solutions (NbS), and willing to strengthen practical cooperation with the Platform in the fields of green finance, and corporate ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) based on Nature-based Solutions (NbS). In addition, it is recommended that the Platform actively promote communication and pragmatic cooperation among partners in different knowledge fields under the existing work framework and mechanism design, and maximize the effectiveness of knowledge products and practical cases with the support of relevant regional environmental cooperation mechanisms.



Wang Qian

Project Planning Director of the Beijing Office of the United Nations Environment Programme



The Platform emphasizes areas from information exchange to knowledge sharing, from capacity building to project cooperation and development. As an organic integration and effective extension of the achievements of China-ASEAN, Lancang-Mekong and Sino-African environmental cooperation mechanisms, the Platform is expected to scale new heights. In the future, UNEP will focus on supporting the Platform in sustainable infrastructure and Nature-based Solutions (NbS), and stands ready to share effective practices in the field of NbS in other regions around the world, especially its projects and experiences in mangrove protection and deforestation reduction in the Asia-Pacific region.

Zhang Yan

Partnership Expert at the UNICEF Representative Office in China

The Platform is an “open, inclusive, innovative and pragmatic” platform that connects the main direction of the Platform’s future work with the 2030 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, which perfectly dovetails with the current international trend. Meanwhile, the Platform’s focus on the community as an important work direction should be highly appreciated. As women and children in the community are the most vulnerable groups in the face of climate change, the follow-up should also focus on strengthening the Platform’s contribution to climate disaster reduction. At present, UNICEF is carrying out the climate innovation network work, which aims to promote the participation of children and youth groups in climate action. Partners are also expected to make joint efforts to promote this work.



Zhang Jing Senior Project Director of Greenpeace



Greenpeace pays great attention to the adjustment of low-carbon energy mix in the process of international energy investment, and is committed to seeking solutions to low-carbon transformation of the energy system and green sustainable development under the direction of green investment. In addition, Greenpeace is also carrying out quantitative research in relevant aspects. It hopes to carry out practical cooperation with the Platform in the future in terms of systematic planning, model forecasting, and sharing of technical experience, so as to jointly contribute to the cause of climate change in the countries concerned.

Dimitri de Boer ClientEarth Chief Representative



China's overseas power investment has made important contributions to the development of power infrastructure in related countries. In the future, under the guidance of low-carbon and clean development of energy investment, we must also intensify attention and investment in energy storage and power grid facilities from the perspective of overall energy system efficiency. In this context, the Platform regards low-carbon clean energy as a key emphasis in work, which is a timely action worth approving. For this work, it is hoped that in the future, the Platform will be possible to promote the active participation of relevant development financial institutions and give full play to the important supporting role of the financial sector in climate change. At the same time, it is recommended that the Platform consider issues regarding green supply chain and ESG information disclosure of overseas investment projects as the focus of future concerns.

Li Nan Project Director of WWF Beijing Representative Office



The Platform can effectively promote the efficient interaction of international organizations, research institutions, and corporate departments to form joint forces. It is hoped that the Platform can give full play to its role of network connection in the future to improve the overall effectiveness of the South-South Cooperation on climate change. Meanwhile, it is recommended that the Platform continue to refine the work roadmap and plan a series of promotional activities to constantly improve its influence, and work with partners to explore best practices of and effective solutions to regional climate change and sustainable development.

Liu Hongming Senior Director of Global Climate Change Action of the Environmental Defense Fund



The current work of the Environmental Defense Fund focuses on carbon emissions trading, green supply chain management, greenhouse gas emissions and biodiversity conservation. Since the outbreak of COVID-19, the global social and economic situation has become increasingly complex and the pressure on ecological and environmental protection has continued to increase. In this context, it is hoped that the Platform can give full play to its role to effectively help relevant countries and partners to deepen their understanding of the "two-way" interaction of climate change and sustainable development, and actively carry out productive communication and collaboration among South-South countries and regions, thus contributing to the realization of the Global 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

Liu Qiang Project Director of the China Office of the Children's Investment Fund Foundation



The Platform focuses on a wide range of areas and covers current hotspots and key issues in the field of climate change. CIFF is willing to explore future directions and ways of cooperation on the basis of further deepening communication. At the same time, in the context of the green recovery in the post-pandemic era, it is recommended that the Platform carry out relevant exchanges on key issues such as social fair transformation and development, regional emission reduction and sustainable development, and continue to improve and enrich its mechanisms and means of cooperation.

Li Ai Senior Project Officer of the Ford Foundation



The key focus areas of the Platform are generally in line with the work direction of the Ford Foundation's natural resources and climate change team. The Ford Foundation currently supports relevant public welfare organizations in Southeast Asia, Africa and other regions and countries. It also has a certain number of cases in the protection of natural resources and climate change, and it is willing to actively share cases as effective support for the content of the Platform. In the future, the Ford Foundation is ready to participate in the Platform's work in the fields of sustainable infrastructure, community response to climate change, green finance, and corporate ESG. Meanwhile, it is suggested that the Platform may try to explore various ways of interaction and collaboration with other related platforms in the future to form a synergy.

Miao Hong Director of the Sustainable Investment Department of the World Resources Institute



The recent focus of the World Resources Institute (WRI) on power infrastructure and low-carbonization of China's foreign power investment is highly compatible with the key areas of the Platform. WRI is very willing to participate in the Platform's future work on sustainable infrastructure and low-carbon clean energy, and will also provide certain resources and cases to support the Platform's establishment. Moreover, it also hopes to have more high-quality exchanges and cooperation with South-South countries based on the Platform's knowledge sharing, policy dialogue and other mechanisms, and strive to work with relevant international institutions to actively promote the implementation of climate change-related projects in South-South countries.

Zhou Shuang China Communications and Engagement Manager of C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group



As an international urban joint organization concerned with addressing climate change, and similar to the Platform, C40 has accumulated some specific cases of domestic and international cities in addressing climate change, focusing on areas such as clean construction, low-carbon buildings, zero-carbon communities, and green transportation. In the future, it is hoped that the Platform and C40 can explore and form a fixed mechanism to promote pragmatic cooperation and information sharing among platforms, realizing the two-way presentation of good practices of Chinese cities and foreign cities in tackling climate change.

Duan Kai Senior Manager of the Climate and Energy Project of the Natural Resources Defense Council



The Platform comprehensively covers the relevant content of South-South Cooperation on climate change. The Natural Resources Defense Council mainly focuses on energy mix adjustment, international green production cooperation, and green and low-carbon development of overseas industrial parks. It is ready to support the Platform's work in the fields of sustainable infrastructure, clean and low-carbon energy in the future.

Hao Yihan Director of Rocky Mountain Institute

Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) is mainly committed to leveraging the resources and strength of the business sector to respond to climate change with market-oriented solutions. At present, its focus is on reducing costs and increasing efficiency under the optimization of the supply chain of the new energy industry in developing countries, reducing emissions and responding to climate risks in the shipping sector with the help of green finance, and intelligent development of ports in the port industry cluster. In the future, RMI is also willing to share practical cases in related fields with the Platform.



Xu Xin Senior Manager of External Affairs of the Nature Conservancy



In the process of building the Platform, it is recommended to focus on two important appeals. First, as an important information and knowledge sharing platform of South-South Cooperation on climate change, the Platform is expected to actively carry out related activities based on the actual conditions and demands of different participants in the future, and promote communication and business cooperation among relevant government departments, non-profit organizations, and corporate departments at home and abroad. Second, in the context of carbon emissions peak and carbon neutrality, the actual demands of a vast number of developing countries more focus on climate change adaptation and green development, so the Platform is also recommended to give priority to this in the future.

Kang Aili Director of Regional Strategy of the Wildlife Conservation Society

Green finance has played a key role in addressing climate change. But at the same time, some development projects supported by green finance often neglect biodiversity conservation. For this reason, it is recommended that the Platform pay more attention to cases in related fields in the follow-up case collection and dissemination, and actively promote the effective coordination of biodiversity conservation and climate change. Besides, it is also suggested that local Chinese public welfare organizations be involved in the Platform's establishment in the future.



Kevin May Programme and Research Manager of China and the Developing World Programme China Programme Unit of OXFAM Hong Kong



In the process of responding to and adapting to climate change, we should, on the one hand, increase public awareness of the communities and hear more views from communities. On the other hand, women and children, as relatively vulnerable groups at the community scale, are even more affected by climate change. Therefore, we should focus on vulnerable groups such as women and children, and strengthen their abilities to keep their livelihood and to resist climate change risks in the future. Meanwhile, given that relevant local public welfare organizations in China have also made some effective practical explorations in the field of climate change and green sustainable development in recent years, it is recommended that the relevant content can also be used as a case composition of the Platform.

Huang Zhen Project Director of the Asia Foundation



The relevant framework arrangements and cooperation mechanisms of the Platform have been fully formed, and the different thematic directions determined are also in line with the current situation in the field of climate change. In order to give full play to the role of the Platform in promoting regional environmental cooperation and exchange, it is recommended to strengthen the exploration and collation of the existing practices and project experience in different countries in the future, and promote exchanges and mutual trust between different regions and countries on this basis.

Teng Yue Government Affairs Officer of the United Nations Development Programme



The key areas of the Platform are highly consistent with the work carried out by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). UNDP is ready to participate in the establishment of the Platform, and provide relevant resources, knowledge achievements and publicity support. For the future, first, it is suggested that the Platform can focus on strengthening personnel exchange with UNDP. While deepening the Platform management staff's understanding of relevant working mechanisms and frameworks of international institutions, the foundation for cooperation in related fields can be further consolidated. Second, as an important platform for the demonstration of multilateral cooperation outcomes, the Platform will become an important channel and entry point for relevant UN agencies to participate in multilateral cooperation between China and other countries and regions. We also call on our partners to strengthen communications based on the Platform, and jointly participate in and actively promote the development of the Platform.

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About LMEC: Lancang-Mekong Environmental Cooperation Center (LMEC) is an initiative proposed by Chinese Premier Li Keqiang at the 1st Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Leaders' Meeting in March 2016. Officially inaugurated in November 2017 in Beijing, the LMEC aims at advancing cooperation on ecological and environmental protection among Lancang-Mekong countries, providing a platform for environmental and development dialogue, enhancing regional environmental management capacity, facilitating regional environmental cooperation and pushing forward regional sustainable development in a concerted manner.
