



中国-东盟环境保护合作中心
China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Center

生态环境部对外合作与交流中心
Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center

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ASEAN-China High-level Forum on Green and Sustainable Development

ASEAN-China Environmental Cooperation Forum 2021

High-Level Dialogue 1

On 24-26 October 2021, ASEAN-China High-level Forum on Green and Sustainable Development & ASEAN-China Environmental Cooperation Forum 2021 was held in the form of online & offline meetings as part of the ASEAN-China Year of Sustainable Development Cooperation. The Forum is sponsored by the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of China and the People's Government of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, supported by ASEAN Secretariat, and jointly hosted by Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center (FECO) of MEE/China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Center and Department of Ecology and Environment of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

Zhao Yingmin, Vice Minister of Ecology and Environment of the PRC; Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary-General of ASEAN; Phouvong LUANGXAYSANA, Vice Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of Lao PDR; and Luo Zhanghua, Deputy Secretary general of People's Government of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, delivered opening remarks. Zhou Guomei, Director General of the Department of International Cooperation, MEE, moderated the opening ceremony. Li Yonghong, Deputy Director General of China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Center/Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center, MEE, moderated the High-level Dialogue and gave closing remarks. Representatives from the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of China, environmental departments of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and other provinces and municipalities, ASEAN Secretariat and ASEAN Member States, UNEP, UNDP, Stockholm Environment Institute, World Wide Fund for Nature, and businesses, financial and research institutions in China and ASEAN Member States, attended the meeting.

With the theme of "Building a Community of Shared Life for Mankind and Nature, Exploring New Pathways for Green Development", the Forum invites experts from the Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment of Singapore, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Myanmar, UNEP, World Wide Fund for Nature, Stockholm Environment Institute, and Chinese Academy of Sciences to engage in high-level dialogues on "Advancing a New Progress of Biodiversity Governance and Fueling Sustainable Development" and "Jointly Tackling Climate Change and Promoting Green Development". Guests exchanged ideas and shared experience on biodiversity conservation and addressing climate change, providing green and sustainable solutions to address global and regional hotspot environmental issues.

Here is a summary of the remarks on High-Level Dialogue 1 with the theme of "Advancing a New Progress of Biodiversity Governance and Fueling Sustainable Development".



Dechen Tsering
Director of UNEP Asia-Pacific

We are faced with multiple challenges in achieving sustainable development, including biodiversity conservation and addressing climate change. The *Kunming Declaration* adopted at COP 15 is a milestone. It is a political statement for the negotiation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, showing the determination of the parties to take immediate actions to solve the problem of biodiversity loss. UNEP and UNDP will increase the financing support for biodiversity from the Global Environment Fund (GEF). As the hosting country of COP 15, China established Kunming Biodiversity Fund and proposed the “twin carbon goals”. Banks and financial institutions also issued the *Joint Declaration of Banking Sector to Support Biodiversity Conservation*, providing huge support for biodiversity conservation. A series of major events have been carried out this year to gather international consensus on reversing biodiversity loss. It is expected that all parties could strengthen cooperation in addressing climate change, biodiversity conservation and environmental pollution control to make greater contribution to the global environmental agenda.

Hoang Van Thuc
Deputy Director General
Vietnam Environment Administration
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
Viet Nam



Currently, ASEAN Member States, including Viet Nam, are in the stage of post-pandemic with slow economic recovery. ASEAN-China environmental cooperation is making continuous progress. *ASEAN-China Environmental Cooperation Strategy and Framework of Action 2021-2025* has been adopted to guide ASEAN-China environmental cooperation in the next 5 years. The Vietnamese government appreciates China's commitment to and efforts in biodiversity conservation and will continue to support ASEAN-China cooperation in sustainable development and facilitate the implementation of the Environmental Cooperation Strategy.



Wang Yi
Vice President
Institute of Science and Development
Chinese Academy of Sciences/
Member of the Standing Committee of
the 13th National People's Congress

China and ASEAN Member States have been actively engaged in dialogue and exchange in clean energy transition, mangrove conservation and the sustainable development of communities with positive outcomes. Related cooperation projects include the development of plan and toolkit for regional green and low-carbon transition, the application of AI technology in the development of renewable energy in ASEAN Member States, the launch of ASEAN-China Mangrove Conservation Initiative and the implementation of pilot programs for community-based mangrove conservation. In the future, China and ASEAN Member States should continue to strengthen cooperation in green and low-carbon transition to facilitate the realization of sustainable development goals in the region.



Lu Lunyan CEO of World Wide Fund for Nature China

The deterioration of the natural environment leads to frequent natural disasters and extreme weather events, and increases the cost of acquiring eco-system services. Therefore, it is urgent to identify a clear global goal for the protection of nature. This requires us to protect and conserve 30% of land and sea areas, reduce the carbon footprint of production and consumption, adopt sustainable ways of production and operation, and promote green and high-quality development. The adoption of *Kunming Declaration* and the establishment of Kunming Biodiversity Fund set an example for global efforts in biodiversity conservation. In the future, WWF will continue to engage in cooperation with governments, businesses and social organizations in addressing climate change, biodiversity conservation and marine ecological conservation to work towards a carbon-neutral and fair future with harmony between man and nature.



Chayanis Krittasudthacheewa Deputy Director of SEI Asia

Biodiversity plays an important role in promoting sustainable development. Nature-based Solutions have become a major pathway to climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as natural disaster reduction. Meetings of COP 15 Phase One have been successfully held with the adoption of the *Kunming Declaration* laying the groundwork for negotiations in the next phase. SEI will continue to actively engage in regional cooperation in biodiversity conservation, promote the mainstreaming of gender and human rights, and provide assistance to regional development through the strategic cooperation fund of the Swedish government. In the future, we will work together with partners to make greater contribution to regional sustainable development with biodiversity conservation, addressing climate change and marine ecological protection as the priority areas.

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China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Center is committed to implementing China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Strategy and promoting China-ASEAN exchange and cooperation in the field of environment. It is an important platform of foreign environmental cooperation.