



Sino-German  
Environmental Partnership

**giz** Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

On behalf of



Federal Ministry for the  
Environment, Nature Conservation  
and Nuclear Safety

of the Federal Republic of Germany



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Environmental Partnership



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Decades of double-digit economic growth in China has led to environmental degradation, which threatens to constrain the country's economic and carrying capacity of the environment and natural resources. China is now increasingly working to reverse this trend. The German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) supports the Chinese Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE) in its design of an effective environmental governance system in line with the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement. Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) has been implementing the Sino-German Environmental Partnership since 2013. The project entered into its second phase in September 2017, which is currently expected to be in operation until 2021.

In the 13th Five-Year Plan (2016–2020), the Chinese government has set demanding and ambitious targets for improving the environmental situation. New regulations and national action plans for water, air and soil, as well as institutional reforms, measures, and instruments are aimed at securing improvements on the environmental quality in the upcoming years.

One of the main focuses of the project is its close cooperation with the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED). CCICED is a high-level international advisory body with the approval of the Government of China. It supports the development and implementation of effective environmental policy.

The partnership project supports the drafting of policy recommendations on specific climate, environment and development matters by drawing on German and international expertise. The exchange of personnel, training, and knowledge supports the advisory process, in order to best prepare China for its future as a transformed “Ecological Civilization”.

Furthermore, the project supports strategic environmental dialogue formats, demand-oriented advice and capacity building measures on a variety of topics – including the improvement of air, water, and soil quality, as well as biodiversity – in supporting the continued improvement of China's environmental governance system.





## Air

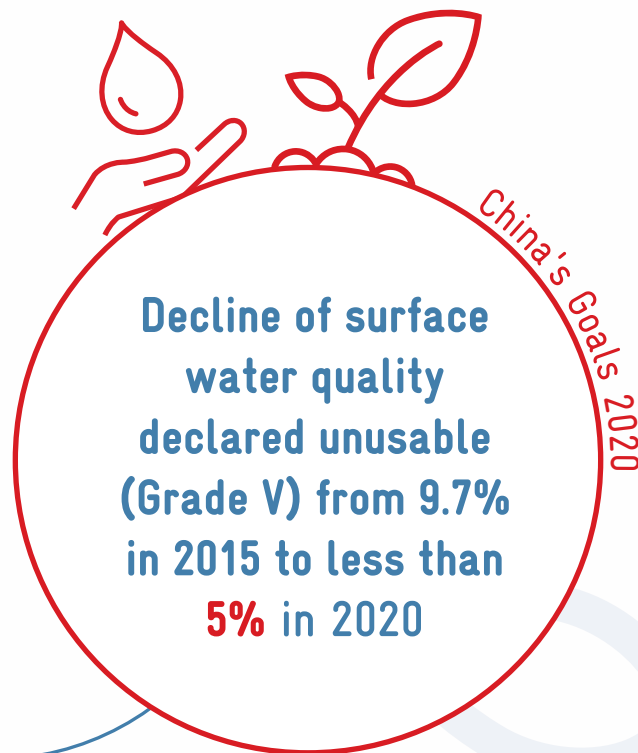
According to a recent World Health Organization (WHO) study, nine out of ten people worldwide breathe polluted air. Since Premier Li Keqiang declared a “war against pollution,” combating air pollution has been high on China’s governmental agenda.

Therefore, a knowledge exchange on air quality has been launched as a part of the Sino-German Environmental Partnership. Through expert visits and workshops in China, as well as training sessions in Germany, the MEE has received demand-oriented capacity advice for legislation, regulation and emission-permitting in the area of pollution control in industrial facilities, such as in the cement and steel production sector.

China's Goals 2020

Increase of days  
with good or  
excellent air quality  
in major cities –  
compared to 76% in  
2015 – to more than  
**80%** by 2020

All China's Goals 2020 can be found in the 13th Five-year plan for Economic and Social Development of the People's Republic of China (2016–2020)



## Water & Soil

The challenges arising from soil and water pollution are cross-cutting issues that include aspects of climate change, desertification, biodiversity and food safety.

In the past few years, the partnership project has supported MEE and its affiliated agencies in addressing soil and water pollution prevention and control through the contribution of German and European expertise, experiences and best practices. Chinese experts are advised on aspects of soil standards, soil and water monitoring. As a result of the project activities, remediation technologies and both institutional and individual capacities have been strengthened.





## Biodiversity

China is one of the 12 mega-biodiversity countries in the world. Its main ecosystems include territorial ecosystems (e.g. forest, shrub, meadow, steppe, desert, wetland) and major marine ecosystems (e.g. the Yellow Sea, the East China Sea, and the South China Sea). Around half of China's species are found nowhere else in the world. These include many archaic and distinctive evolutionary lines, such as giant pandas and ginkgoes.

As elsewhere, China's biodiversity suffers due to the explosive increase in the intensity and extent of human activities. Forest cover now accounts for only 21% of its area, rangelands are severely overgrazed, wetlands are rapidly shrinking, and invasive species are an increasing problem.

China is committed to the goals of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The CBD Conference of the Parties (COP) 15 will be hosted by China in 2020. Germany has been supporting the activities of the CBD for a long time.

**Ensure that the total  
area of wetlands  
stays above 53.33  
million hectares  
nationwide, by 2020**

*China's Goals 2020*



# Sustainable Consumption & Production

The Sino-German Environmental Partnership project supports our Chinese partners in the areas of sustainable consumption and green development, environmental labelling and green public procurement.

Capacity building measures for Chinese technical personnel in standard formulation and certification procedures of the German Blue Angel eco-labelling standard, as well as German Green Public Procurement and the harmonization of Sino-German common standards of environmental labelling are just additional examples of what has been achieved so far.

China's Goals 2020

**Advance systems for green labeling, green certification, and green government procurement by 2020**



## FOCUS AREAS



AIR



WATER



SOIL



BIODIVERSITY



SUSTAINABLE  
CONSUMPTION



SUSTAINABLE  
PRODUCTION

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH  
Sino-German Environmental Partnership Project  
Dr. Christian Stärz  
Project Director  
Sunflower Tower 1100  
37 Maizidian Street, Chaoyang District  
100125 Beijing, PR China  
T +86 10 8527 5180  
F +86 10 8527 5185  
E [christian.staerz@giz.de](mailto:christian.staerz@giz.de)  
I [www.environmental-partnership.org](http://www.environmental-partnership.org)

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