



Announcement

Dear CCICED community,

As you are all aware, a novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) has recently been identified in the Hubei province of China. The CCICED Secretariat is closely monitoring this situation and will provide updates accordingly.

We understand several SPS Teams have scheduled meetings and field trips during February in China, given the development of the virus, these activities are **postponed**. The new dates of the meetings will be circulated in due course. If you or your colleagues have made travel arrangements via SISO for these meetings, please kindly contact us at cciced@iisd.org to have your itinerary revised.

We wish our CCICED colleagues and friends our very best during this difficult situation. Thank you for your kind understanding and please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Kind regards,
Secretariat International Support Office

Upcoming Events

JANUARY

28th - 30th OECD Private Finance for Sustainable Development Conference 2020, Paris

FEBRUARY

8th - 13th 10th World Urban Forum, Abu Dhabi

17th - March 6th International Seabed Authority, 26th Assembly, Kingston, Jamaica

MARCH

10th - 12th Global Symposium on Soil Biodiversity, Rome

30th - April 3rd National Adaptation Planning Expo 2020

News Scan

Global Governance and Ecological Civilization



The Chinese paddlefish, one of world's largest fish, has gone extinct

Jan 8th, National Geographic - The Chinese paddlefish and its close relatives have been around for at least 200 million years. In the muddy waters of the Yangtze, the paddlefish lived as it had for eons, using its special sword-like snout to sense electrical activity to find prey, such as crustaceans and fish. However, a new study has concluded that the species has gone extinct, mainly due to overfishing and dam construction. [FULL ARTICLE](#)



EIA Welcomes China's New Law to Ban Illegal Timber

Jan 21st, Yahoo Finance - In an encouraging move with the potential to create transformative market change, China recently amended its Forest Law to include a nationwide ban on buying, transporting, and/or processing illegally sourced timber, as well as an added focus on traceability. As the co-lead for nature-based solutions within the United Nations, China's commitment to clean up its timber supply chain would also help advance global climate actions. [FULL ARTICLE](#)



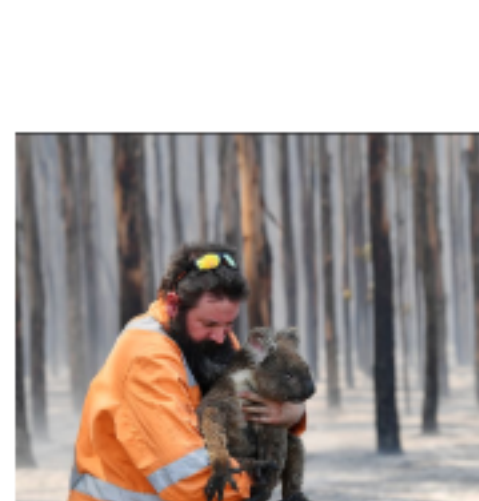
Top economist and CCICED Chief Advisor Liu Shijin on valuing ecological services

Jan 23rd, China Dialogue - "If you move beyond the existing understanding and view green development as a superior approach that can compete with the traditional model of industrialisation, then its significance for economic growth is hugely changed." More recently, Liu has argued that China's demand for property, infrastructure, steel and coal has already peaked, and macroeconomic stimulus policies will not only struggle to change underlying growth rates, but also risk sparking economic decline. He is currently working on the economics of green development during the 14th Five Year Plan. [FULL ARTICLE](#)



China's role 'critical' if world is to meet climate change targets

Jan 28th, South China Morning Post - UNEP climate change coordinator Niklas Hagelberg said China's emissions per gross domestic product (GDP) had decreased but total emissions were still rising. He said unless global greenhouse gas emissions fell by 7.6 per cent each year between 2020 and 2030, the temperature target may be a pipe-dream with catastrophic effects on the planet. "Due to the country's share of total emissions, this target cannot be delivered without further progress in China," Hagelberg said. [FULL ARTICLE](#)



China and EU lead charge for climate policy

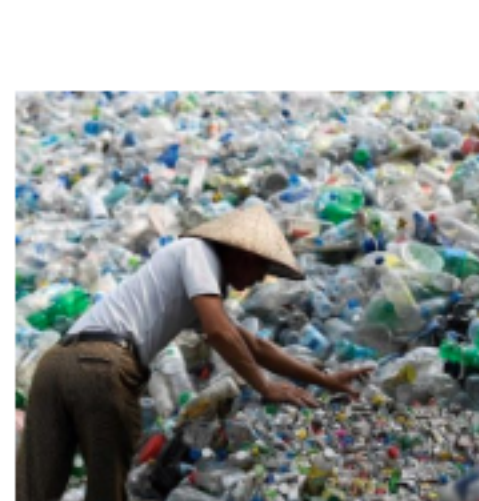
Jan 30th, China Daily - Several key events in 2020 will influence our collective chances of meeting the Paris Agreement goal. The nationally determined contributions are reviewed and adjusted in five-year stock-taking sessions, the first of which will occur in Glasgow. Nations will be expected to come up with more ambitious measures to reduce emissions, as the 2-degree threshold will almost certainly be passed as things stand. By then, China and the European Union will likely represent the two largest economies coordinating on international climate change policy. [FULL ARTICLE](#)

Green Urbanization and Environment Improvement



China moves to phase out single-use plastics

Jan 19th, Reuters - China is stepping up restrictions on the production, sale and use of single-use plastic products, the state planner said, as it seeks to tackle one of the country's biggest environmental problems. Vast amounts of untreated plastic waste are buried in landfills or dumped in rivers. The United Nations has identified single-use plastics as one of the world's biggest environmental challenges. [FULL ARTICLE](#)



Opinions of National Development and Reform Commission and Ministry of Ecology and Environment on Further Strengthening the Control of Plastic Pollution

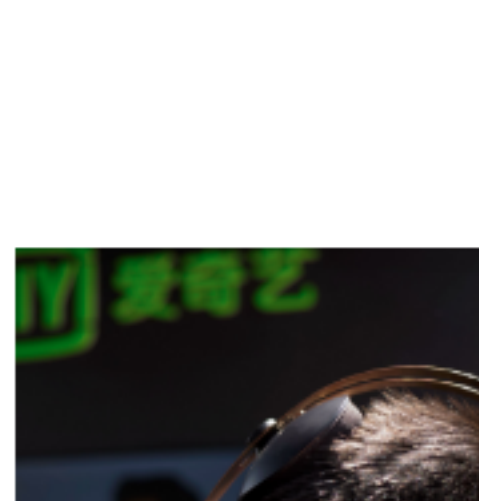
Jan 20th, China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation - Actively responding to plastic pollution is related to the health of the people and the construction of ecological civilization and high-quality development in China. In order to implement the decision-making arrangements of the Party Central Committee and the State Council, further strengthen the management of plastic pollution, and establish and improve a long-term management mechanism for plastic products, with the consent of the State Council, the following opinions are proposed. [FULL ARTICLE](#)

Innovation, Sustainable Production and Consumption



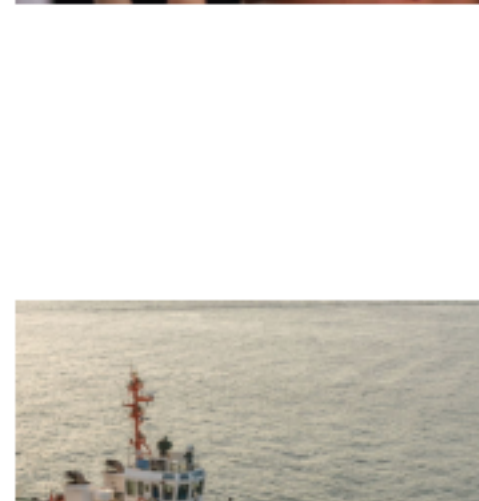
China Focus: "Magic soil" a green solution to red tide

Jan 10th, Xinhua News - A "magic soil" made out of modified clays has been proved effective in fighting red tide along China's coastal waters and introduced to other countries like Chile, the United States and Peru. The "magic soil" won second prize of China's State Technological Invention Award that was presented in Beijing for its breakthrough in eliminating the threat of red tide, a harmful algal bloom (HAB) causing damage to marine aquaculture. [FULL ARTICLE](#)



Renewable energy use by Chinese tech companies on rise

Jan 10th, CGTN - Chinese technology giants are trimming their carbon footprint by using more renewable energy. Chindata is switching over to green energy at the fastest rate and also maintaining transparency in energy use, followed by Alibaba, Tencent, GDS and Baidu, said the first-ever assessment of the country's internet companies. Chindata scored 80 points, while Alibaba, Tencent, GDS and Baidu managed to score 52, 48 and 46 points, respectively. [FULL ARTICLE](#)



Xiamen leads the way in tackling ocean trash

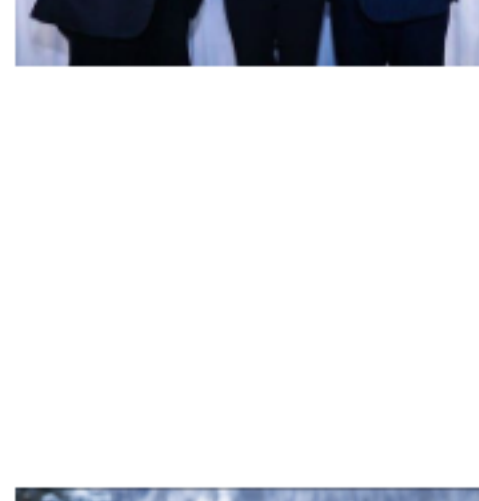
Jan 13th, Eco-Business - In the port city of Xiamen on China's southeast coast, three cameras watch the Jiulong river as it wends its way to the sea. Not for the beautiful views, but to monitor litter. The images are processed to identify types of waste, predicted drift patterns are quickly calculated and ideal collection points are identified. This forecasting system, developed by Xiamen University, has been running since July 2017 and has made more efficient collection of marine waste a reality. [FULL ARTICLE](#)

Green Energy, Investment and Trade



Fostering a circular economy: Covestro and Nongfu Spring to cooperate on upcycling of polycarbonate water barrels

Jan 10th, Yahoo Finance - Materials manufacturer Covestro has signed a cooperation agreement with Chinese bottled water and beverage company Ausell to upcycle and reuse the 19-liter polycarbonate water barrels. Through this cooperation, the companies will further optimize the recycling efficiency of Nongfu Spring's 19-liter polycarbonate barrels, improve the traceability and quality of recycled materials, and extend the life of barrels that are no longer in use. [FULL ARTICLE](#)



The Coca-Cola Company and JD.com Partner to Explore New Recycling Program in China

Jan 21st, Coca-Cola Press Release - JD.com has leveraged its nationwide logistics system in a pilot to help collect used beverage bottles from households. The collected bottles are being sent to recycling facilities in partnership with Coca-Cola, where they'll enter the circular value chain. The project was announced at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. [FULL ARTICLE](#)