Benefits of China’s Green Development to Human Destiny Community Building

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ABSTRACT

The paper argues that China’s insistence on green development is conducive to cope with climate warming problem, sustainable development of the world, development of human rights cause and effective governance of the world. Despite of the tremendous challenges in green development, China’s green development is still promising.¹

KEYWORDS

Ecological Environment, Green Development, Human Destiny Community

INTRODUCTION

Xi jinping, the general secretary, put forward in the 19th CPC National Congress report that it is essential to "adhere to the path of peaceful development and promote to build human destiny community".[1] The so-called human destiny community refers to taking other countries’ needs or interests into consideration while pursuing our own nation’s development from all aspects. Human destiny community, the global value, includes the concept of interdependent international power, common interests, sustainable development and global governance. After all, our human beings, regardless of races and nationalities, only have one earth. Therefore, the concept of green development that considering ecological management while improving economy could promote the common progress and sustainable development of human society.

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THE IMPORTANCE OF CHINA’S GREEN DEVELOPMENT FOR BUILDING HUMAN DESTINY COMMUNITY

China has the largest population around the global, accounting for a quarter of the population in the world. China’s Land area is 960 square kilometers, ranking the third in the world. Meanwhile, since 2013, China has become the world's second largest economy. Therefore, whether China would insist on the green development or not has vital significance to the world's economic and social development.

The Benefits of China’s Green Development to the World’s Common Interests—Global Warming

High-carbon model in development not only wastes the limited earth resources, but also threatens global climate due to the continuous emission of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, which, is detrimental to the improvement of the human living environment. China, as a developing country, is one of the main emitters in the world. Hence, China shoulders significant responsibility in tackling with climate change. In 2007, the 17th Chinese Communist Party National Congress proposed the concept of scientific development and harmonious world view, equaling the status of ecological civilization to material civilization, spiritual civilization and political civilization and integrating climate change issues in the overall strategy of building a harmonious world and harmonious society [2]; The 18th CPC National Congress regarded the idea of green development as an important content of the "five ideas of development", and made a series of strategies and measures. The ultimate goal of green and low-carbon development is developing Chinese economy while coping with the world's common problems—global climate change.

The Conduciveness of China’s High-quality Green Development to World’s Sustainable Development

Sustainable development refers to the development which is not at the expense of future generations’ interests. The "green development" concept is currently advocated by China, and it means that improving the quality of ecological environment and ensuring that the ecological carrying capacity will not decrease, while achieving high-speed development of economy and society. The green high-quality development of China's economy mainly reflects in:

Firstly, it is vital to develop economy while paying attention to resources reservation and eco-friendly. China is a developing country, although there is a large quantity of resources, the per capita ranks low in the world. Meanwhile, due to natural disasters, the natural ecology (especially in the central and western regions of China) has been relatively fragile. In other words, China faces pressures in protecting the ecological environment. Therefore, governments at all levels shall take measures to develop the green economy, low-carbon economy and ecological economy, and try to build a resource-efficient and environment-friendly society.
That is to say, the government need to work on resource-saving and environmental-friendly.

Secondly, the development focuses on efficiency. Since new China was established on the basis of the "poor", Chinese government put the rapid economic development and solution to people's problem of "food" in the first place. However, the high-speed economic development greatly relies on a large amount of investments of people, goods, and a variety of resources. Therefore, the low-efficiency economic development is inevitable. Since the 16th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the government at all levels put science development and low-carbon green development into effort, which is to change the extensive and inefficient development pattern to intensive and efficient economic development.

Thirdly, the development takes account of the "two benefits". In recent years, Chinese government have enhanced ecological environment legal enforcement, enacted "environmental protection law", established the ecological damage compensation mechanism, and the "head" of local government's ecological audit system during absence, which aims to emphasize the responsibilities of enterprises and individuals, and the local government in developing green low-carbon economy; Meanwhile, it addresses that we should consider both economic benefits and environmental ecological benefits while emphasizing rapidly developing economy.

The economic and social sustainable development in China means that a quarter of the world's population is on the path of the green high-quality development, which is beneficial for the sustainable development of the world.

The Contribution of China’s Green Development to The Development of Global Human Rights Cause

Survival rights and development rights are the most basic human rights and China's green development is conducive to the most basic human rights protection. First, China's rapid development is conducive to meet the survival rights of a quarter of the population of the world. According to Maslow's hierarchy of needs, physiological needs are the most basic human needs. To survive and to live better should be the topic of "physiological needs". Since the reform and opening, Chinese government have fast solved the food problem of the local residents, guided people into the moderately prosperous society, and guaranteed people’s survival rights. Second, China insists that green development helps to promote the common development of human beings. The improvement of ecological environment in China will promote the quality of ecological environment in the world, which is beneficial to gain the sustainable development of economic and social rights for all countries in the world.
The Conduciveness of China’s Green High-quality Development to the Effective Governance of the World

There are various factors that may affect the effective governance of the world, such as fair international political and economic order and the balanced economic and social development among developed countries and developing countries. However, from my perspective, I think the key factor that can affect the world to achieve effective governance is whether or not every country could have equal rights of development. If the rapid development of part of people hindered the other people’s development rights, the world will be in chaos: regional conflict, ethnic and religious contradictions and so on will emerge. China's green development emphasizes the common rights humans should share, the development rights, and the common development of all countries. In this sense, China's green development is conducive to the effective global-governance.

CHINA’S GREEN DEVELOPMENT FACES PRECEDENTED CHALLENGES

In general, there are three main challenges of China’s green development:

Feeding Problem is the Biggest Challenge

China is the most populous country in the world, and whether China can feed their citizens or not once questioned by the foreign experts. In modern history, China was weak, and the subsistence problem of the citizens was a difficult task. After the reform and opening-up policy, China can basically solve the food problem by relying on rapid development, and then gradually stepped into a moderately prosperous society. Chinese people can feed themselves. Nevertheless, China's ecological environment quality and ability of sustainable development have been weakened. How to maintain and improve the ecological environment quality while ensuring that we Chinese could still feed ourselves became a big problem.

Ecological Environment Problem is Conspicuous

Unlike western developed countries where the ecological environment problems emerged in the process of industrialization, China, as a developing country, its ecological environment problems arose in the rapid economic development since the reform and opening policy, with the features of compression type and composite type. In general, China’s ecological environment problems mainly reflects in: (1) the main pollutant emissions (including waste water, waste gas, waste residue) greatly exceeds the carrying capacity of the ecological environment, which causes serious environmental pollution; (2) the uncontrollability of the scope of environment damage since people damage the ecological environment while constructing it; (3)
New environmental ecological problems emerged while old environment ecological problems have not been completely solved. Those conspicuous ecological environment problems not only affect the sustainable development of China, but also threaten people's survival and environment development.

**Building Green Ecological Culture is a Long-term Project**

Culture is the direct reflection of the actual producing activities and life behaviours, and the sum of material wealth and spiritual wealth created by human in the process of social and historical development. Cultural accumulation and forming normally go through several generations of wisdom crystallization. Once culture is formed, it would not be easy to change in the short-term. In traditional Chinese culture, there are some excellent elements such as hardworking and thrift, saving, mutual assistance, and respect the old and cherish the young; However, there are also some corrupt customs such as “communities depend on water draft”, which is not in accordance with the concept of green development. To advocate for green development and adhere to the scientific outlook on development, except for standardizing system specification and guiding public opinions, the most critical thing is to make efforts to build green ecological culture in people’s mind to let the green development concept deeply rooted in the hearts of the people and our descendants.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR GREEN DEVELOPMENT IN CHINA**

Personally, I think that there are four following aspects we need to emphasize in order to achieve green development:

**Strengthening the Propaganda for Setting up the Concept of Green Development**

Since the 18th National Congress, the "five ideas of development" has been advocated, and green development is one of them. Green innovation, low-carbon development, green production, and green living have gradually become a social consensus. We should promote the importance of low-carbon green development by a variety of means, and make efforts to build a public opinion—cherishing environment is glorious while polluting the environment is shameful. Caring for green development and cherishing the environment should start from individuals and the ideas should be infused to people at their young age.

**Standardized Policy to Promote the Green Development Behaviours**

As the Chinese proverb: nothing can be accomplished without norms or standards. That is to say, facilitating green development through protecting
environment should not only rely on administrative commands, instead, we should mainly rely on the legal and economic measures. On the one hand, we should strengthen the legislation for protecting ecological environment, and insist that it must be strictly enforced, and violators are punished. On the other hand, we should take economic measures to encourage the development of green low-carbon industry while restricting the development of high energy consumption and high pollution industry. In addition, it is critical to reform the examination system of local government, resolutely putting an end to the wrong practice which values "GDP is the most important". We need to find a way to make local administrative authorities intensify the support for the green development.

**Technical Innovation for Expanding Green Development Ability**

To adhere to the low-carbon green development, it is necessary to upgrade industries, eliminating backward production capacity and vigorously developing the green industries. Hence, there are several actions we should take. Firstly, building research platform for green development and setting up academies which aim to do research on strategies and technologies of low-carbon green development, in order to provide decision-making consultation and technical support for the green development; Secondly, establishing fund for green development and giving support to enterprises and individuals who engage in the development of green industries; Thirdly, setting up low-carbon green technology market, in order to provide support for the transformation of green low-carbon innovation achievements; Fourthly, building talent teams who engaged in low-carbon green technology researches and encouraging more scientific research professionals to involve in the green technology innovation.

**Strengthen International Cooperation for Building a Green Home Planet**

We humans have only one earth, and the earth ecological environment is a unified whole, hence, maintaining an ecological environment which can sustainably develop has important practical significance to the world. Building a green planet is a long-term systematic project which cannot be completed only by China. Instead, it needs effective cooperation with all the nations around the global. Since developed countries have sufficient funds and technology while developing countries have realistic needs to insist on green development and improve the ecological environment, it is favourable to build a green earth through the mutual cooperation among developed countries and developing countries.

**CONCLUSIONS**

China’s green development is conducive to build a human destiny community. It is inevitable that we may have many difficulties in the green development, but the
concept of green development has gained wide consensus in China and will be effectively implemented in the economic and social development.

REFERENCES
