



中国援助
CHINA AID
FOR SHARED FUTURE

International Development Cooperation: China's Practice

Eighth Issue | September 2026

Blue Economy



China International Development Cooperation Agency

CONTENTS



International Development Cooperation: China's Practice / Eighth Issue
Blue Economy

2

CHAPTER 1

Key Principles

- 2 Mutual respect and equality
 - 3 Capacity building and shared development
 - 3 Harmonious and sustainable development
 - 4 Innovation synergy and multi-party collaboration
-

5

CHAPTER 2

Overall Progress

- 5 Intensified cooperation efforts, boosting development momentum in partner countries
 - 6 Broadened cooperation fields, highlighting the development orientation
 - 6 Expanded geographical reach, prioritizing support for small island developing states (SIDS)
-

7

CHAPTER 3

Practical Effects

- 7 Deeply participating in global ocean governance and marine conservation cooperation to foster international consensus on building a maritime community with a shared future
 - 7 Supporting infrastructure development in small island and coastal developing states to strengthen the foundation for economic growth and livelihood improvement
 - 13 Emphasizing experience sharing and capacity building to strengthen the abilities of developing countries to manage oceans and develop blue economies
 - 16 Assisting small island and coastal developing states in developing blue economies suited to local conditions to achieve sustainable economic growth
 - 21 Strengthening the protection and restoration of marine ecological environment and promoting marine biodiversity and sustainable ocean development
 - 25 Conducting cooperation on blue disaster prevention and mitigation, and enhancing the global capacity and resilience to respond to climate change and marine natural disasters.
-

30

CHAPTER 4

Future Outlook

The ocean supports life, connects nations, and drives development. The ocean covers over 70% of the Earth's surface. Nearly 40% of the world's population lives in coastal areas. 80% of world trade is conducted via maritime routes. All countries around the world face both opportunities and challenges in ocean governance. The rational development, utilization, and effective protection of the ocean are directly related to the basic survival and sustainable development of humanity. Adopted in 2015, the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (referred to as the "2030 Agenda") includes "Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development" as an important goal. In 2021, the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021–2030), known as the Ocean Decade, was launched to promote global efforts towards sustainable ocean development.

Vast, inclusive, mobile and interconnected, the ocean by its very nature points toward a shared future for global ocean governance. As a coastal country, China has a long tradition of maritime engagement in global connectivity. The 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road has established a multi-tiered maritime cooperation platform between China and the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), South and West Asia, and Africa. In 2019, President

Xi Jinping put forward the concept of a maritime community with a shared future, emphasizing that "The blue planet humans inhabit is not divided into islands by the oceans, but is connected by the oceans to form a community with a shared future, where people of all countries share weal and woe." This statement points out the underlying logic and fundamental orientation of international dialogue and cooperation on ocean matters. In recent years, China has promoted high-quality Belt and Road cooperation and advanced four major global initiatives: the Global Development Initiative (GDI), the Global Security Initiative (GSI), the Global Civilization Initiative (GCI), and the Global Governance Initiative (GGI) (referred to as the "four global initiatives"). China has also carried out a series of practical cooperation on the blue economy and sustainable development, laying the foundation for green marine ecological civilization while pursuing cooperative marine development. These efforts contribute Chinese solutions and wisdom to global ocean governance, yielding concrete outcomes.

This report examines the key principles, overall progress, and practical effects of China's post-2018 international development cooperation on the blue economy, particularly with small island and coastal developing states. It aims to enhance mutual learning to create a better world where humanity and the ocean coexist in harmony.



01

Key Principles

In international development co-operation on the blue economy, China has consistently followed key principles including mutual respect and

equality, capacity building and shared development, harmonious sharing and sustainable development, and innovation synergy and multi-party collaboration.

(i) Mutual respect and equality

Mutual respect and equal treatment is a core principle of China's international development cooperation. This entails refraining from imposing one's will on others, prioritizing the genuine needs and wishes of partner countries, while

respecting their customs and cultures. This principle ensures the smooth implementation and sustainable operation of cooperative projects.

In international cooperation on the blue

economy, China values consultations on an equal footing and starts from the priority areas and real needs of partner countries. Prior to cooperation, it maintains close communication with all stakeholders regarding the content and approach of assistance. During cooperation, projects are jointly planned through effective bilateral dialogue mechanisms to ensure alignment with local development strategies and the preservation of traditional livelihoods and cultures.

(ii) Capacity building and shared development

Building the independent development capacity of partner countries is a key objective of China’s international development cooperation. Many small island and coastal developing states, due to their unique geographic locations, possess natural beauty, abundant marine resources, or strategic transport nodes. These countries have huge potential and an urgent need to achieve self-sustained development. However, various factors, including limited foundational capacities, have hindered the full realization of their blue economy potential.

China adheres to the principle of “both giving fish and teaching how to fish” in blue economy cooperation, placing special emphasis on enhancing independent development capacity of partner countries. On the one hand, “hard infrastructure” support is highlighted to improve infrastructure and connectivity, thereby establishing a solid material base for blue economy development. On the other hand, “soft infrastructure” assistance is provided through talent training, experience exchange, and technical cooperation to facilitate knowledge and skill sharing and transfer, thereby enhancing local human capital for blue economy development.

(iii) Harmonious and sustainable development

Sustainable development is the fundamental goal of developing the blue economy. This means that while deriving social, environmental, and economic benefits from oceans, humanity must fully consider the rights and opportunities of future generations to utilize marine resources and spaces, thereby preserving a healthy, clean, and beautiful marine home for the future.

China is committed to advancing the 2030 Agenda within its international cooperation on blue economy, particularly focusing on Goal 14 (“Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development”) and Goal 17 (“Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development”). It also supports the coordinated implementation of international agreements such as the *United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea*, the *Convention on Biological Diversity*, the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* and the *Paris Agreement*, and the *International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships*, facilitating the fulfillment of their commitments and objectives. Practically, China applies sustainable development principles by concentrating cooperation efforts on key areas, including infrastructure development, suitable industries, marine eco-environmental protection, blue disaster prevention and mitigation, and talent training for developing countries.

(iv) Innovation synergy and multi-party collaboration

Multi-party collaboration is essential to developing the blue economy. The blue economy is not a single industry but a comprehensive economic and social transformation centered on the ocean and aimed at sustainable development. It encompasses marine resource development and utilization, environmental protection, industrial transformation, scientific and technological innovation, among other aspects. Therefore, advancing the blue economy requires the participation of diverse actors such as governments, enterprises, research institutions, and international organizations to achieve the unity of economic, social, and ecological benefits.

In blue economy cooperation, China has established an effective synergy among government agencies, research institutions, and multinational enterprises. Government agencies including the China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA), Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), and Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MOE) are responsible for devising overall plans and building cooperation platforms. Research institutions like the Institute of Oceanology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (IOCAS) and Ocean University of China (OUC) play a vital role in scientific and technological innovation and knowledge sharing. Enterprises actively contribute by expanding investments, aligning with

markets, and applying technologies. Moreover, China has strengthened cooperation with international organizations such as the United Nations Development

Programme (UNDP) and International Maritime Organization (IMO) to fully leverage their extensive networks and rich expertise to enhance collaborative efforts.

02

Overall Progress

Since 2018, China has made significant progress in international development cooperation related to the blue economy. This is reflected in steadily increasing

investments, diverse cooperation forms, broadened cooperation fields, and expanded geographical reach.

(i) Intensified cooperation efforts, boosting development momentum in partner countries

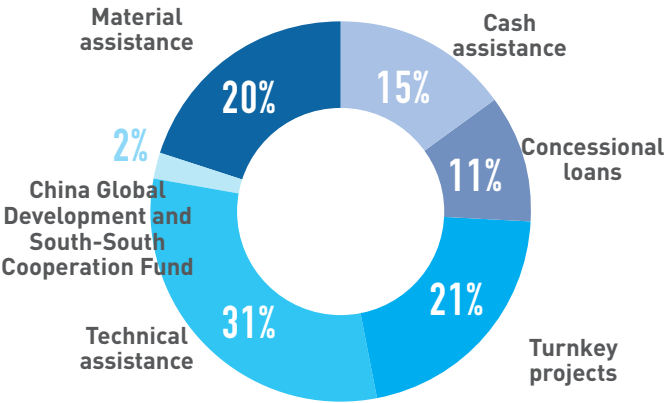


Figure 1 Distribution of China's blue economy cooperation projects by types, 2018–2025

As the global community has attached greater importance to the blue economy, China has intensified its cooperation in this regard, with investment amounts rising steadily in response to the stronger development needs of small island and coastal developing states. Data show that between 2018 and 2025, China's investment in international development cooperation for the blue economy exceeded 23 billion yuan¹. The cooperation takes various forms, including technical assistance, turnkey projects, concessional loans, material assistance, and cash assistance (Figure 1).

(ii) Broadened cooperation fields, highlighting the development orientation

China's international development cooperation in the blue economy spans many fields, such as supporting infrastructure construction in partner countries, jointly advancing locally suitable industries, collaborating on disaster prevention and mitigation, and protecting the marine ecological environment (Figure 2). More specifically, between 2018 and 2025, infrastructure construction and industrial development accounted for 53% and 38% of China's cooperation projects,² respectively, highlighting the development orientation.

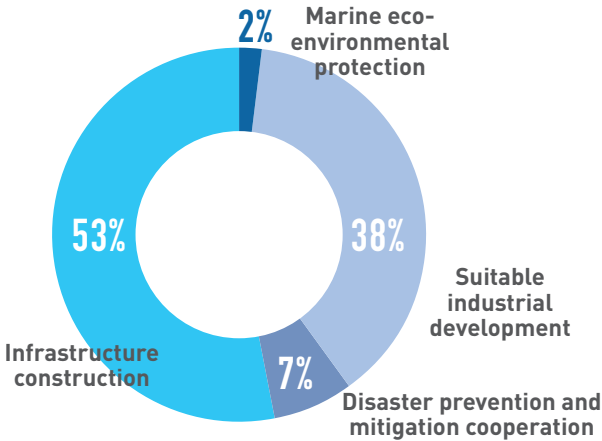


Figure 2 Distribution of China's blue economy cooperation projects by fields, 2018–2025

(iii) Expanded geographical reach, prioritizing support for small island developing states (SIDS)

China's international development cooperation in the blue economy covers a wide range of regions, with significant support directed towards small island and coastal developing states. Between 2018 and 2025, 64% of China's

cooperation projects were implemented in Asia and Pacific Island Countries (PICs), while 36% were focused on Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean.

1. Human resource development cooperation projects are not included.

2. Human resource development cooperation projects are not included.

Practical Effects

(i) Deeply participating in global ocean governance and marine conservation cooperation to foster international consensus on building a maritime community with a shared future

Improving global ocean governance is central to advancing sustainable ocean development. China has consistently upheld the global ocean governance system with the United Nations at its core, embraced a vision of ocean governance featuring extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits, and deeply participated in global ocean governance and marine protection cooperation to promote sustainable ocean development. In September 2025, President Xi Jinping solemnly put forward the GGI, injecting fresh impetus into global ocean governance.

China steadfastly supports the UN-centered global ocean governance system. China was the first country to sign and ratify the *United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea*, and has defended its authority and integrity through concrete actions. In recent years, China has actively engaged in the Ocean Decade while promoting the coordinated implementation of the GDI

and the 2030 Agenda. In August 2022, China established the National Decade Committee to formulate and implement the framework for its participation in the Ocean Decade. China also took part in the full negotiations on the *Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction* (BBNJ Agreement), and became one of the first signatories and parties to the Agreement, making a significant contribution to its conclusion. These practices fully demonstrate China's role as a major country in support of multilateralism.

China actively provides high-quality marine public goods to the international community. China has launched multiple international big science programs, including “Digital Deep-sea Typical Habitats” (Digital DEPTH), “Ocean Negative Carbon Emissions” (ONCE), and “Ocean to

Climate Seamless Forecasting System” (OSF), in an effort to explore pathways for sustainable development based on harmonious coexistence between humanity and the ocean. China has actively developed blue partnerships, released the *Belt and Road Blue Cooperation Initiative*, signed maritime cooperation agreements with over 50 countries and international organizations, and established more than 10 joint research platforms. It has supplied the international community with high-quality marine public goods, covering ocean observation and forecasting, ocean disaster prevention and mitigation,

marine spatial planning, and blue carbon initiatives. In addition, China has set up maritime cooperation and exchange platforms with Africa, the European Union, Southeast Asia, and several island countries. The Symposium on Maritime Cooperation and Governance, the China Ocean Economy Expo, and the World Coastal Forum have been established as platforms for such exchanges. Since 2022, CIDCA has hosted the China-Indian Ocean Region Forum on Blue Economy Development Cooperation for three consecutive years, facilitating fruitful and practical cooperation.

(ii) Supporting infrastructure development in small island and coastal developing states to strengthen the foundation for economic growth and livelihood improvement

Infrastructure is fundamental to economic development. Given their unique geographical locations, small island and coastal developing states have great potential to become key transportation hubs. However, they tend to face prolonged connectivity deficits caused by underdeveloped infrastructure, limiting their participation in global trade and value chains. Therefore, infrastructure development is a critical priority for these countries, as it affects their ability to unlock long-term potential of economic growth and improve the accessibility

and well-being of local populations. China has supported the construction of transportation, energy, communication, and other infrastructure in small island and coastal developing states to enhance local connectivity with the outside world and raise overall living standards of local communities.

Newly built or rehabilitated transportation infrastructure has improved the efficiency and quality of regional connectivity. Transportation infrastructure plays a vital role in strengthening social connectivity,

optimizing resource allocation, and promoting regional integration. For SIDS in particular, convenient transportation infrastructure significantly reduces the cost and time of transporting marine products and equipment, enabling industries such as offshore fishing, seafood processing, and marine tourism to reach broader hinterland and international markets. Drawing on its extensive experience, China has assisted these countries in rehabilitating and constructing bridges, piers, ports, and other transportation facilities, creating “blue arteries” to support blue economy development.

 China-Maldives Friendship Bridge Unleashes Economic Vitality in the Maldives

The Maldives is a global tourist destination. The Greater Malé region, comprising the islands of Malé, Hulhumalé, and Hulhulé, has demonstrated significant economic vitality. However, for many years, these islands were accessible only by boat or seaplane, limiting the full realization of the Maldives’ economic potential. Building cross-sea bridges over coral reefs involves high costs and advanced technologies, making it a long-awaited dream for the Maldivian people that remained unfulfilled for a long time.

In September 2014, during President Xi Jinping’s state



Scene from the opening day of the China-Maldives Friendship Bridge

visit to the Maldives, the two countries agreed that China would assist in constructing a cross-sea bridge linking the capital city of Malé with the airport island Hulhulé. Two years and eight months after construction began in 2015, the China-Maldives Friendship Bridge was officially opened



Distant view of the China-Maldives Friendship Bridge

in August 2018. The project includes the cross-sea bridge itself, connecting infrastructure on both ends, supporting facilities along the route, landscaping works, navigational aids, and reserved municipal pipeline channels.

The China-Maldives Friendship Bridge is the first cross-sea bridge and the largest infrastructure project completed in the Maldives to date. Spanning two kilometers, it connects Malé and Hulhulé

across the sea, linking the three islands of Malé, Hulhumalé, and Hulhulé. Maldivian leaders and citizens widely agree that this bridge has greatly improved travel conditions for local residents and further propelled economic growth in the Greater Malé region. The Maldives’ Bani International Policy Center published a study highlighting the impacts and benefits of the bridge on the fifth anniversary of its opening. The report states that the bridge currently accommodates about

20 million trips annually and has significantly enhanced economic activity and mobility between Malé and Hulhumalé.

In March 2024, an implementation agreement was signed for the China-aided China-Maldives Friendship Bridge Follow-up Maintenance and Technical Assistance Project, which will continue to support the Maldives in infrastructure connectivity and sustainable economic development.

Support has been provided for power and communication infrastructure to improve local production and living conditions. A stable power supply is a prerequisite for modernizing traditional marine industries like aquatic product processing, cold chain logistics, and ice-making, and moreover, it directly affects livelihood improvement and social well-being. Communication infrastructure, including submarine fiber optic cables and broadband networks, is essential for achieving interconnectivity

and capitalizing on digital economy opportunities in the digital age. These two types of infrastructure are critical for small island and coastal developing states to maintain stable production and daily life. China has prioritized electricity and communication infrastructure in its blue economy cooperation, and has helped other developing countries improve power supply and communication services through technical, financial, and project assistance.

prompting São Tomé and Príncipe to urgently request assistance from the Chinese government. In response, China immediately provided technical assistance and repaired Unit 3 within 48 hours.

Since 2017, China has dispatched four groups totaling 17 technical experts to São Tomé and Príncipe to provide technical assistance for power generation. In May 2024, these expert teams successfully completed their contracted

tasks and passed the on-site acceptance evaluation on their first attempt. The two countries are now in discussions regarding the fifth phase of technical assistance for power generation.

China-Aided Power Generation Technical Assistance Project in São Tomé and Príncipe

São Tomé and Príncipe, a democratic republic with a population of 190,000, is an island nation situated in the Gulf of Guinea along the eastern coast of the Atlantic Ocean. In December 2016, Unit 3 of the main Santo Amaro Power Plant in the capital city, São Tomé, experienced a malfunction and shutdown, causing power outages in several areas. This blackout severely affected local production and daily life,



Chinese experts engage with local residents

Solomon Islands National Broadband Infrastructure Project

The Solomon Islands National Broadband Infrastructure Project is a landmark project for cooperation between China and Solomon Islands. The project plans to construct 161 3G/4G wireless communication base stations on 35 major islands in nine provinces of Solomon Islands. The three-year construction period began in August 2023. The first telecommunication tower was launched in Sali Village, Guadalcanal Island in March 2024, and the second was launched in Paraniyu Community, central Guadalcanal Island on April 10, 2024. On October 15, 2024, the first telecommunication



Telecommunication tower for the Solomon Islands National Broadband Network Project

tower in Isabel Province was connected to the network. Once completed, the project will help the country close the

digital gap, support domestic production and daily life, and achieve sustainable development.

(iii) Emphasizing experience sharing and capacity building to strengthen the abilities of developing countries to manage oceans and develop blue economies

Human resources are vital to blue economy development. While small island and coastal developing states are rich in marine resources, they often lack the technology, knowledge, and talent needed to effectively convert these resources into economic value. Insufficient human resources also limit their capacity to monitor, prevent, and respond to marine disasters. China has helped build capacity in developing countries by establishing marine personnel training mechanisms and organizing marine-related training programs.

Technical support has been provided for the preparation of marine spatial planning. China has extensive experience in developing and implementing plans, being among the first countries to prepare marine spatial planning. Marine spatial planning coordinates the development, utilization, remediation, protection, and restoration of marine spaces over time, enabling the rational and effective use of marine areas while integrating ocean development and utilization with ecological protection. In recent years, as more developing countries have expressed interest in learning and adopting China’s standards and methods

for marine spatial planning, China has begun to offer technical support to countries with limited capacity in this area.

Marine personnel training mechanisms have been established. In 2012, China launched the Chinese Government Marine Scholarship Program to help cultivate high-level professionals in related fields from developing countries in the region. This program provides financial support to outstanding students and young scholars from countries around the South China Sea, the Pacific Ocean, the Indian Ocean, and Africa to pursue master’s or doctoral degrees in oceanography and related disciplines in China. In 2017, this scholarship was incorporated into the Silk Road Scholarships program. In December 2023, China announced the Blue Talent Program at the Second China-Indian Ocean Region Forum on Development Cooperation. To date, this program has trained over 17,000 professionals across various fields for countries in the Indian Ocean region.

Training courses have been organized at multiple levels, across various regions and fields. Over the past three years, China has conducted more

than 180 training courses on the blue economy, with over 5,000 participants. These programs have targeted regions including Indian Ocean Rim countries, Caribbean countries, and PICs. The fields covered include marine spatial

planning, marine disaster prevention and mitigation, sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, marine pollution control, port construction and management, among other areas.

Ministerial Workshop on Marine Management and Blue Economic Development for BRI Countries



Participants take part in research and study tours in China

From November 1 to 14, 2024, China successfully hosted the Ministerial Workshop on Marine Management and Blue Economic Development for Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) Countries. The workshop aimed to enhance communication and cooperation in sustainable	ocean development, integrated coastal zone management, development planning and environmental protection for coastal cities, as well as blue economy development. 15 ministerial and departmental officials from three coastal developing countries and	regions, namely Zanzibar (Tanzania), Antigua and Barbuda, and Gambia, took part in the exchange event. While in China, these officials engaged in a variety of comprehensive exchange and research activities in Xiamen, Pingtan, Tianjin, and Beijing.
---	---	---

These training programs cater to different personnel levels. Seminars for ministerial-level officials focus on enhancing macro-level strategic capabilities; workshops for departmental and division-level officials emphasize policy implementation; and technical training courses concentrate on practical skills.

International Training Course on Marine Meteorological Disaster Prevention and Mitigation for Indian Ocean Rim Countries

On June 11, 2025, the International Training Course on Marine Meteorological Disaster Prevention and Mitigation for Indian Ocean Rim Countries opened in Beijing. The event brought together 37 officials and experts in meteorology, hydrology, and disaster management from six Indian Ocean Rim countries, namely Thailand, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Egypt, and Ethiopia. Centered on marine meteorological disaster prevention and mitigation, the 14-day program explored cutting-edge topics and shared practical Chinese experience through various forms such as case studies, field trips, and student forums. The



Participants conduct field research during their stay in Beijing

training focused on marine meteorological monitoring, forecasting, and early warning practices. This training strengthened the marine meteorological forecasting capabilities of developing countries in the Indian Ocean Rim and represents a positive practice of blue disaster prevention and mitigation cooperation between China and these countries.

(iv) Assisting small island and coastal developing states in developing blue economies suited to local conditions to achieve sustainable economic growth

Developing the blue economy in ways tailored to local conditions is crucial for sustainable development in small island and coastal developing states. To simultaneously maintain healthy marine ecosystems, improve people’s livelihoods, and promote economic growth, these states need to develop industries suited to their circumstances, such as fisheries and aquaculture, tourism, energy, shipping and port activities, seabed mining, renewable energy, and marine biotechnology. China has supported these countries in enhancing sustainable economic development and people’s well-being by providing assistance in the form of cash, materials, projects, and technology.

Cooperation has focused on promoting the local development of industries suited to local conditions. China has helped PICs fully leverage their

strengths in agriculture and fisheries by effectively connecting them with Chinese technology, talent, capital, and management. This has promoted the extension of industrial chains and upgrading of value chains, has injected strong impetus into industrial integration, technological advancement, and income growth for farmers, thereby boosting local economic development and improving living standards. China has also implemented numerous agricultural technical assistance projects in Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Tonga, and the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM). These projects enhance agricultural production capacity and food security by dispatching expert teams to conduct research, demonstration, and training in areas such as Juncao cultivation, dry rice farming, vegetable growing, and animal husbandry.

China-aided Ghana Fishing Port Complex Project Boosts Local Fishery Development

Jamestown, a traditional fishing community situated along the Gulf of Guinea coast of the Atlantic Ocean, has a long	history of fishing passed down through generations. Although Ghana boasts an extensive coastline and abundant fishery	resources, the outdated facilities at the Jamestown fishing port had seriously hindered the growth of the local
--	---	---

fishing industry.

Construction of the China-aided Ghana Fishing Port Complex Project began in August 2020. Over nearly four years, the project involved dredging the harbor and navigation channels, building hydraulic structures such as breakwaters, berms, and wharf berths, and establishing related production and support facilities including an ice-making plant, cold storage facilities, a fish market, a commercial area, and a ship repair station. This project created over 3,000 jobs for the local community. Upon completion, the extended and reinforced breakwater will enhance safety for boats docked at the port, and the expanded wharf can accommodate more conventional fishing boats for unloading catches and support the operational needs of industrial fishing vessels, providing fishermen with a spacious and clean environment for their work. These improvements have significantly improved the



Aerial photo of the Jamestown Fishing Port after construction



Fishing boats docked at the Jamestown Fishing Port

working and living conditions of local fishery workers. Chinese companies not only introduced advanced Chinese machinery and technology during construction but also provided professional training in knowledge and skill to

local workers. Throughout the project, many local laborers were employed. Under the guidance of Chinese technicians, they progressed from general laborers to skilled workers such as carpenters, steelworkers, plumbers, and electricians.

Chinese Enterprises Contribute to Fishery Industry Development in Mauritania

Mauritania possesses abundant fishery resources, but due to outdated local fishing, processing, and preservation technologies, many of these resources have not been effectively developed or utilized. In 2010, a Chinese company arrived in Mauritania and signed a long-term fishery cooperation agreement with the local government, obtaining permission to operate fishing activities in its waters.

With strong support from the Mauritanian government, a

large-scale modern pelagic fishing base was established within two years. Today, this fishery base has caught and processed over 80 types of seafood. Its products have received certification from the European Union and are exported year-round to African countries, the European Union, Southeast Asia, South Korea, and Japan. This base has developed a diverse range of fishery products including sardines, snappers, and crustaceans, efficiently improving the utilization of

Mauritania's fishery resources. As the largest foreign-invested company in Mauritania, this entity has directly brought nearly 300 million dollars in local investment, making positive contributions to local industrial development and economic growth. Moreover, the company has created numerous jobs for local people and trained hundreds of fishery technicians, embodying the principle of "teaching how to fish as well as giving fish."

China's Agricultural Technical Assistance to FSM

Agriculture plays an important role in the economic and production activities of both China and FSM, and agricultural cooperation is an important area of their bilateral technical cooperation. Since 1998, the Chinese

government has offered 12 phases of agricultural technical assistance to FSM, and introduced an ecological, circular, and clean agricultural model involving pigs, biogas system, and vegetables. This approach effectively combines

aquaculture, farming, and renewable energy tailored to local conditions. It is considered as an excellent strategy to address global climate change, and has been highly embraced across the country, including by farmers. The



Training activities at the Chinese-aided demonstration farm in FSM

Chinese government has also assisted in the construction of demonstration farms in Pohnpei State, Madolenihmw	Municipality, and the College of Micronesia-FSM, and sent senior agricultural experts to provide guidance and	demonstration on agricultural production.
---	---	---

China has promoted the development and utilization of marine renewable energy. Energy is the lifeblood of economic development. The development and utilization of renewable energy is an effective way to achieve green and low-carbon energy transition. Many small island and coastal developing states have abundant solar, wind, and ocean energy (such as tidal and wave energy) resources and favorable natural conditions for the development of photovoltaic, wind, and hydropower. China has assisted these countries in building renewable energy power generation facilities (such as photovoltaic power stations and small wind turbines), and provided technical and financial support to reduce their reliance on costly diesel power generation. This contributes to achieving energy independence and stability, as well as green and low-carbon development.

 China-aided Ranomafana Hydropower Plant in Madagascar

On December 19, 2024, the groundbreaking ceremony was held for the Ranomafana Hydropower Plant in Madagascar. Located on the Ikopa River, about 90 kilometers northwest of Antananarivo, the Ranomafana Hydropower Plant, with an installed capacity of 64 MW, represents the largest cooperation project between China and Madagascar since the establishment of diplomatic ties. Upon completion, the project will greatly enhance the stability of the power grid in the capital region, reduce dependence on fossil fuels, optimize the energy mix of Madagascar, further lower the cost of electricity, and support local economic and social



Groundbreaking ceremony of the Ranomafana Hydropower Plant in Madagascar

development and people's livelihood.	the efforts of the Malagasy government to develop hydropower resources, actively advance industrialization, and pursue energy independence, and provides a strong foundation to achieve its goal of doubling the national electricity access rate by 2030.
--------------------------------------	--

President Rajoelina said that Madagascar is committed to developing hydropower and other renewable energy sources. He stressed that the Ranomafana Hydropower Plant is a key project supporting

 China-aided Wind Farm Project Supports Tonga's Energy Transition

On July 14, 2025, the China-aided wind farm project in Tonga was officially commissioned. The project,	which comprises three 750kW wind turbines, one 11kV switch station, and supporting transmission infrastructure, is	now supplying clean electricity to Tonga's national grid. Since the start of trial operation in January 2025, the project has
--	--	---



China-aided Wind Farm in Tonga

been operating smoothly. As of September 1, 2026, the project has generated over 8.68 million kWh of electricity, equivalent to about 8% of Tonga’s annual power supply and accounting	for 32.89% of its renewable energy output during the same period. The project had greatly alleviated the longstanding power shortage in the country. Aligned with the Tonga Energy	Road Map, the project plays a critical role in realizing Tonga’s strategic goal of raising renewable energy to 70% of its total power generation by 2030 and 100% by 2035.
---	---	---

(v) Strengthening the protection and restoration of the marine ecological environment and promoting marine biodiversity and sustainable ocean development

As one of the Earth’s three major ecosystems, the ocean is the important life-support system and a global climate driver and regulator. However, over 40% of the oceans currently face threats such as climate change, pollution, habitat destruction, and severe biodiversity loss, necessitating urgent and comprehensive international collaboration. Small island and coastal developing states are vital to marine ecosystem protection, but often struggle with ocean governance due to

limited funding and outdated technology. China provides these countries with material and financial support and shares valuable practices, technologies, and experiences to promote sustainable ocean development.

China has shared effective innovations and experiences in managing marine pollution. Local governments, social organizations, and research institutions in China have actively explored solutions and shared experiences internationally in marine pollution control. In February 2024, at the 6th Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, China introduced its new model of marine plastic waste management called the “Blue Circle” model, offering fresh ideas and examples for global marine ecological governance.

China has intensified efforts to protect marine biodiversity. Biodiversity

is fundamental to life on Earth and essential for sustainable development. According to the *2024 Living Planet Report* by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), global marine species declined by 56% between 1970 and 2020. China has actively promoted the adoption by the international community of the historic *Agreement on Marine Biological Diversity* and has established cooperation platforms for biodiversity conservation. At the 14th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands in November 2022, China proposed the establishment of the International Mangrove Center, which has become an important platform for international mangrove cooperation, with an intended membership of 20 countries. In addition, China has cooperated with other coastal nations to protect mangroves, coral reefs, and other marine life.

China-Sri Lanka Colombo Port City Project Emphasizes Biodiversity Conservation

China has adhered to principles of green development and environmental protection throughout the development of the Colombo Port City	Project, a joint initiative between China and Sri Lanka. During the project design phase, the canal direction was modified after extensive	simulations and analyses to ensure that the water inside and outside the port city could be refreshed every ten days. This approach prevents the
--	---	---

accumulation of pollutants at high concentrations over extended periods, creating a healthy environment for coral growth on the seabed. Throughout construction, the project team monitored key indicators such as water quality and biodiversity in real time to achieve zero pollution. It is estimated that the green design and construction methods reduced the use of stone materials substantially and cut carbon dioxide emissions by nearly 1,000 tons, thereby effectively safeguarding the local environment.

In June 2023, the South China Sea Institute of Oceanology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences conducted a 10-day underwater survey of the condition of coral colonies and fish populations in Colombo Port City. The survey identified 73 coral species within the breakwater area, with an average coral coverage of 24.36% and a local maximum coverage of 60%. These corals provide habitats for fish, with 114 fish species recorded,



View of Colombo Port City, Sri Lanka



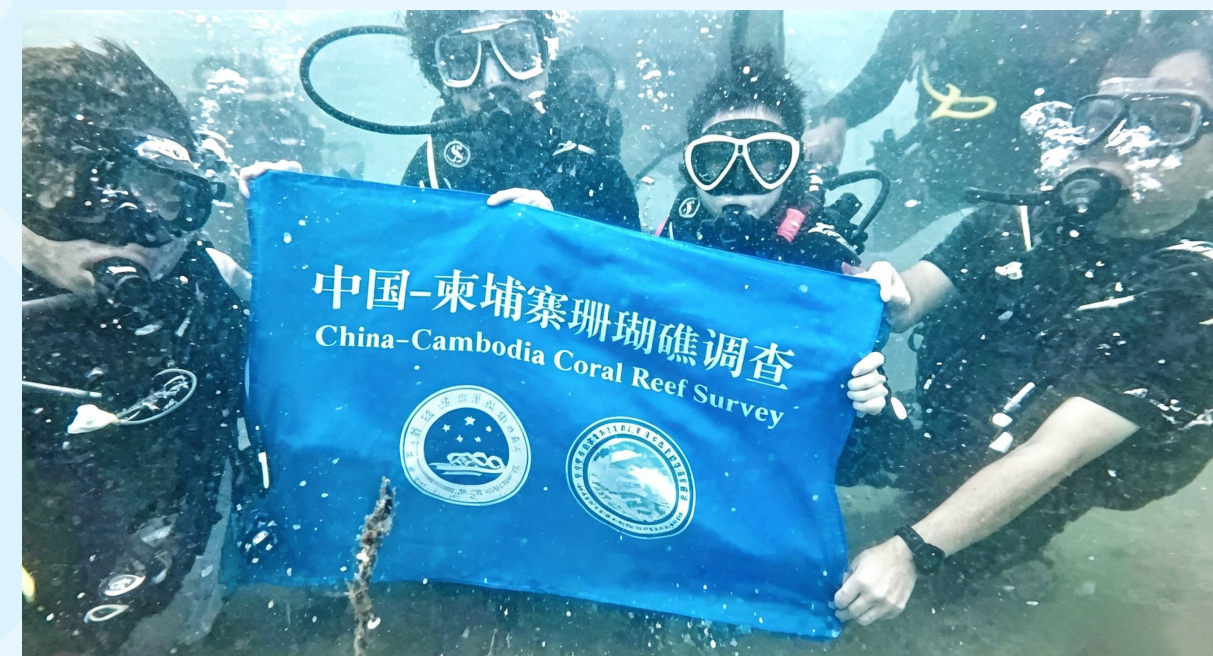
Underwater corals and fish populations in the breakwater area of Colombo Port City, Sri Lanka

including endangered species like *Cheilinus undulatus*.

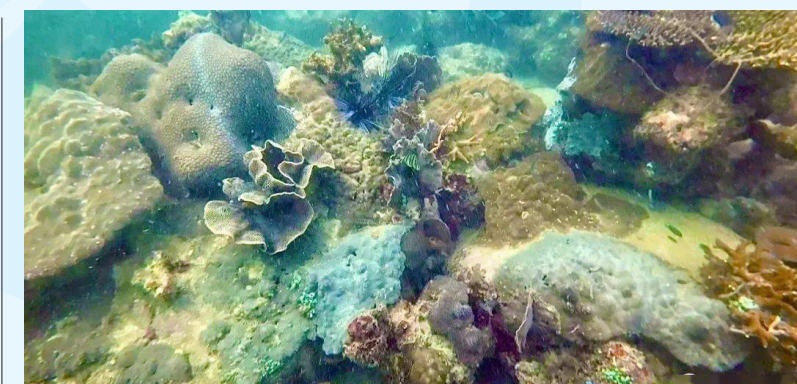
Since 2024, the Port City has further enriched its underwater gardens through a series of coral research collaborations between Chinese and Sri Lankan research institutions. These efforts have included the addition

of 68 new coral nursery clusters, the successful cultivation of over 5,000 coral plants, and the organization of open days and marine environmental protection volunteer activities. These efforts have continued to advance coral ecological research and conservation in Sri Lanka.

China-Cambodia Cooperation to Protect Coral Reef Ecosystems



The Ministry of Natural Resources of China and the Ministry of Environment of Cambodia have established coral reef protection research bases on Weizhou Island in China and Koh Rong Island in Cambodia respectively. In 2023, China collaborated with Cambodia to conduct a survey of the current state of Cambodia's coral reef ecosystems, provided guidance on creating a circular system for coral cultivation, and completed a survey of coral reef conservation in typical



China-Cambodia Coral Reef Survey

areas of Cambodia, along with training and guidance in coral conservation and restoration techniques. In September 2023, an international training program on coral reef protection and restoration was held to

enable Cambodian technicians to systematically learn and master coral reef monitoring and survey methods, providing an exchange platform for China-Cambodia cooperation in marine science and technology.

(vi) Conducting cooperation on blue disaster prevention and mitigation, and enhancing the global capacity and resilience to respond to climate change and marine natural disasters.

In recent years, various marine-related disasters, including sea-level rise, severe shipwrecks, tsunamis, eutrophication, ocean hypoxia, and ocean acidification, have become increasingly severe, posing threats to the livelihoods and economies of the international community, particularly small island and coastal developing states. There is a shared understanding among countries of the importance of cooperation in blue disaster prevention and mitigation. China has partnered with small island and coastal developing states to establish a protective barrier against climate change and marine disasters by developing blue disaster early warning systems, enhancing coastal infrastructure, providing training in disaster prevention, mitigation and response, and donating materials for marine disaster prevention and mitigation.

China supports the development of marine monitoring and early warning systems. Meteorological early warning is the first step for effective disaster prevention and mitigation. Although notable progress has been made in global

meteorological early warning over recent decades, one-third of the world’s population still lacks access to effective early warning information, especially in SIDS and least developed countries (LDCs). China offers technical assistance to other nations for marine monitoring and disaster warning. For instance, the China-PICs Center for Disaster Prevention and Reduction Cooperation, officially launched in February 2023, aims to provide PICs with disaster risk monitoring and early warning technologies and services, as well as post-disaster emergency materials. China has also enhanced joint technological research to advance global marine climate and disaster early warning capabilities. An example is the Ocean and Climate Early wArNing Universal System, jointly developed by the OSF Program and the First Institute of Oceanography under MNR. Based on China’s major breakthroughs in turbulence theory and modeling, this system has greatly improved the forecasting and prediction capabilities for ocean conditions, typhoons, and climate systems.

Meteorological Sub-forum of the Third High-level Conference of the Forum on Global Action for Shared Development Opens Successfully



On April 22, 2026, during the Third High-level Conference of the Forum on Global Action for Shared Development, the Meteorological Sub-forum with the theme of “Pooling Global Wisdom for a Climate-Resilient Future” took place at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing.

During the event, CIDCA, the China Meteorological Administration (CMA), and

the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) signed a Memorandum of Understanding on promoting the implementation of the GDI. The three parties committed to fostering united, equal, balanced, and inclusive global development partnerships within the GDI framework. They plan to jointly explore practical cooperation on enhancing early warning systems, reducing hydrometeorological disaster

risks, adapting to climate change, and promoting green development, which will involve joint capacity building; expertise, technology, and experience sharing; and personnel exchanges and training. These efforts aim to further the UN Early Warnings for All initiative and enhance the hydrometeorological capabilities of developing countries, thereby contributing to accelerating progress toward

the 2030 Agenda and building a community with a shared future for mankind.

At the forum, the new-generation cloud-based public version of the MAZU early warning system was officially released. CMA presented customized versions of MAZU to the Jordan and Sri Lanka Meteorological Departments. The version tailored for Sri Lanka focuses on marine and aviation sectors. Sri Lanka

Meteorological Department described the customized MAZU early warning system as a transformative progress, noting that it has been trained with Sri Lankan meteorological data to effectively improve forecast accuracy and enhance meteorological disaster response capabilities.

WMO Secretary General Celeste Sauro highlighted that MAZU, China's solution for Early Warnings for All,

effectively combines artificial intelligence, early warning, and numerical forecasting, and its operational platform has already delivered impressive results in countries like Pakistan. She said “We look forward to continuing cooperation with CMA to promote MAZU around the globe, especially in the Global South, to enhance early warning capabilities and support global disaster prevention and mitigation efforts.”

China Supports UNDP “Climate Information and Early Warning System” Projects

As natural disasters caused by climate change occur more frequently, developing effective early warning systems and integrating disaster reduction into development strategies have become more important for protecting lives, preserving marine ecosystems, and advancing the blue economy and people’s well-being.

During the Third China-

Indian Ocean Region Forum on Blue Economy Development Cooperation in December 2024, China and UNDP signed a document to cooperate on climate information and early warning system projects in Pakistan and the Maldives. Through the Global Development and South-South Cooperation Fund (GDF), China will support UNDP in establishing these systems in the two countries, thereby strengthening the climate resilience of their

coastal communities. On March 5, 2025, the launch ceremony of Tailored Intelligence for Actionable Early Warning Systems in Pakistan took place in Islamabad. On May 18, 2025, the Maldives Climate Information and Early Warning Systems Project was officially initiated in the Maldives. Similar projects are also underway in Djibouti, Seychelles, Madagascar, and Comoros.

China offers capacity building and technical training in blue disaster prevention and mitigation. Adequate human resources with relevant knowledge and skills are crucial for effective disaster prevention and mitigation. Building on its support for small island and coastal developing states in establishing marine monitoring and early warning systems, China has conducted capacity

building and technical training programs on marine disaster prevention and mitigation systems, marine monitoring, marine geological surveys, and marine environment. These efforts aim to enhance participants’ professional skills and innovative abilities in marine disaster prevention and mitigation, helping the countries involved to better address climate change and marine disasters.

China Helps PICs and ASEAN Countries Improve Capacity for Climate Change Response and Disaster Risk Management



Group photo at the seminars

On the morning of November 12, 2025, a joint opening ceremony took place in Beijing for two seminars: the Seminar

on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management for Pacific Island Countries and the Seminar on Disaster Management for

ASEAN Countries. A total of 65 participants from 14 countries, including Cambodia, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Kiribati, Myanmar,

Nauru, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, and Uzbekistan, attended the training. The program covered topics such as China's emergency management system, natural disaster prevention and control, flood and drought disaster	mitigation, and emergency rescue equipment. Through a mix of classroom instruction, discussions, and visits to relevant institutions in Qingdao and Hefei, the seminars provided a comprehensive and multi-faceted introduction to China's emergency management system and	mechanism, disaster monitoring and early warning system, urban lifeline safety engineering, public security research, and artificial intelligence innovations and applications, serving as a valuable reference for PICs and ASEAN countries.
---	---	--

04

Future Outlook

The future of the ocean is deeply connected to the destiny of humanity. Chinese President Xi Jinping has highlighted that “Ocean development holds limitless potential,” and stressed the need to “care for oceans as we treasure our lives.” Looking ahead, China will actively implement the four global initiatives, build consensus, effectively combine resources and strengths of all parties, and develop blue partnerships in an open and practical way. China will engage in international cooperation on the sustainable development and use of marine resources, disaster prevention and mitigation, and marine ecological protection, making greater contributions to building a marine community with a shared future for mankind.

Firstly, China supports the United Nations in playing a central role in global ocean governance. China remains committed to fulfilling its responsibilities under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Agreement on Marine Biological Diversity, as well as implementing the 2030 Agenda, the Ocean Decade, and other related development goals. At the same time, China will support the UN80 Initiative and work to increase the representation and voice of Global South countries. It will also deepen cooperation with other nations in areas such as port infrastructure construction, resource development, and ecological restoration, while strengthening collaboration with relevant international organizations through the GDF to provide more international public goods and foster more mutually beneficial development projects.

Secondly, China will assist SIDS in enhancing their development resilience. Within the frameworks of the BRI and the GDI, China will strive to offer SIDS more support for climate change response, disaster prevention and mitigation, environmental management, energy transition, and digital economy, thereby bolstering their development capacity and resilience.

Thirdly, China will strengthen cooperation in marine technological innovation and sharing of applicable technologies. Technological innovation is essential for advancing sustainable ocean development, and emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence will continue to empower the blue economy. Leveraging its regional platforms and technological and industrial strengths, China will advance marine scientific and technological innovation and research, actively share scientific findings with the international community, especially with small island and coastal developing states, and encourage the adaptation and application of suitable technologies to local contexts.

**This report is commissioned by the China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA),
and authored by the Center for International Knowledge on Development (CIKD).**



中国国家国际发展合作署
China International
Development Cooperation Agency

www.cidca.gov.cn



中国国际发展知识中心
CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL
KNOWLEDGE ON DEVELOPMENT

www.cikd.org